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The author's qualifications place him in the first rank of scientific explorers. He is a man of large and exact information, trained in all the intricacies of African or Arabian race, or language, and religion,—prepared by a three years' previous travel under the shadow of palm-trees or in the society of camels, by colloquies with Arabs and Tunisian slaves, to undertake long solitary wanderings,—is singularly free from prejudice, a circumstance which enabled him to carry a Koran along with him, and by a quick understanding of Moslem laws and doctrines, at times to silence native disputants, and in the main to disarm native antipathy for a Christian,—and, moreover, a man of such patience as to foil the intrigues of his treacherous Arab servants, bearing for the sake of mankind with the thousand ills which African travellers are ever heir to,—and of a kindness of heart that made him treat his camel as himself, and by recollections of dates and orange-peel made the animal, when his servant had forgotten to tether it, like a Christian beast, return to the tent. Something, too, of a more painful interest the reader cannot divest himself from as he watches the pair of Africanized travellers measuring the slow miles with a lengthening chain at each remove from civilization,—floating on yoked calabashes over the rivers,—occasionally buttering their legs on account of the inflammation caused by the damp,—then exposed to flies and heat and very uncertain odours,—kept in irksome duress in the fanatical towns,—linguishing in close huts under fever or the fear of instant death,—suffering from a barbarous rate of exchange, or the perpetual exorbitance of African duns,—then separating at last under an arrangement which death prevented the one from keep-

ing, and left the survivor only the duty of visiting the lonely burial-place under a fig-tree, and taking care that a sufficient fence of thorns protected the European's grave.

The travels extend over a tract of country of twenty degrees from north to south, and embrace a period of six years, in the first part of which is surveyed the country southward from Tripoli, through the dreary Hammada, the Berber land of Fezzan, through the salt district of Asben to Agades, a corn-trading town of 7,000 inhabitants, and thence to Kanó, the Manchester of Central Africa.

Relics of Roman, of Christian, and possibly Carthaginian, times meet the traveller in the outset of his journey,—fragments of sepulchres succeeded by a castle, then a ruined church, and, in the desert before Mürzuk, an unfinished monument, one story high, of the time of Augustus, apparently the last forlorn outpost of Roman dominion.

One chief object of the Expedition being to open commercial communication with the African chiefs, the traveller relates the result of the negotiation with the leaders of the Tawárek, a powerful tribe, which levies toll on the caravans passing by the south-eastern and western routes. The failure of the envoys is throughout the book attributed to the deficiency of means as well as to the want of tact in producing a letter written by the Government, in which an express stipulation is made for the abolition of the slave-trade, at the time when the chiefs were ready to sign the treaty. What a combination of confidence and firmness is required to cope with native cunning is evident from later portions of the work; though it may be doubted whether much of the annoyance which Dr. Barth and his companions experienced did not arise solely from the supposition of their wealth,—and an increase of means, unless accompanied with a proportionate company, would possibly enhance a thousand-fold the difficulties of an African expedition.

The most interesting and far the most painful pages in the earlier volumes are those which contain evidence upon the effects of the slave-trade. While supplying plenty of proof of the manufacturing industry of the natives of Kanó, in weaving and dyeing cotton, in smelting iron, making salt, in irrigation and agriculture, they bear distinct witness to the human and material desolation caused by the slave-hunts. It appears that an African chief usually clears off his debts by making a foray upon a hostile or sometimes a friendly tribe. Whole districts, which in his first visit Dr. Barth found flourishing and populous, pasture-fields of herds of cattle and *entrepôts* of trade and industry, when he passed by two years later were only mournful wastes, without the least vestige of human or animal life, tall reed-grass covering the fields which had been formerly cultivated. The chief argument which the Vizier of Bórnu alleged in favour of the slave-trade was, that it enabled the people to furnish themselves with muskets; and on a representation being made that Bórnu contained other products which might be exchanged for fire-arms, the Governor declared "in the most distinct manner that if the British Government were able to furnish them with a thousand muskets and four cannons, they would be willing to subscribe any obligatory article for abolishing the slave-trade in their country." This proposal the traveller sagaciously parried by hinting that a road ought to be made first from Bórnu to the Bénúwé, so as to open a thorough communication.

From Kanó, the chief manufacturing *entrepôt* of Central Africa, it had been the original intention of Dr. Barth to penetrate into the

district of Adamáwa, with the view of determining whether the Kwára, or eastern branch of the Niger, had any connexion with Lake Tsad; but want of means detained him on his first visit, and enabled him, instead, to give much interesting information respecting the population and commerce of the city. Our traveller rates the first at 30,000, a sixth part of which consists of slaves, though in the business time, that is, the spring time of the year, an influx of foreigners swells the number of the town to double that amount. Fine woven cotton dresses of dark blue, zenne, or women's plaids, with silk borders, of light blue, red and black, white and black silk, or interwoven cotton and silk, and green and blue silk shirts, designated by pretty African names, such as "the child of the market," or "the guinea-fowl shirt," are exported northward from Kanó as far as Mürzuk and Tripoli, and westward to Timbúktu, and even to the shores of the Atlantic. The annual exportation of this produce to Timbúktu alone amounts to 60,000,000 worth of kurdí, or 4,000*l.* sterling, and the whole produce of the place 300,000,000 a year, a large sum, indeed, when we consider that a whole family can live in this economical town for 50,000 or 60,000 kurdí, or from 4*l.* to 5*l.* a year. The province in which the town is situated contains half a million of free-born and slave inhabitants; the governor can bring into the field ten thousand horse; and the revenues of the province are derived from a tax of a dollar on each family, from imposts on the sale of slaves, and vegetables, and dyeing-pots, of which there are in the town 2,000.

The traveller in his passage eastward through the country observes few home-born slaves, marriage among slaves being little encouraged, the domestic supply being maintained by kidnapping. Once, to his surprise, he is addressed in Rómáic by a long-whiskered negro who has been in Stamboul. Along the way are clusters of neat huts, flourishing farms, and tobacco-fields in flower, a cattle-breeding population, and a portly and sedate Arab, rejoicing in the title of Konche, or "Sleep," from his ability of dozing away the dull time during the fast of the Rhamadán. Then an Arab messenger brings Dr. Barth letters from home, and, to his sorrow, tidings of the death of Mr. Richardson at Ngurdúwa. He arrives at Kúkawa, surveys the Tsad, discovers that there is no connexion between the Chadda or Bénúwé and the Shárl, the principal tributary of the African lake. A detail of the facilities offered to European commerce for reaching Bórnu by the two great branches of the first river,—the journey through the Kótókó territory, through the province of Logón, the crossing of the Shárl, 600 yards broad,—a visit to the capital of Bagirmi,—the return to Kúkawa, with the signature of a treaty by the Sultan of Bórnu for the abolition of the slave-trade,—and, finally, the death of Mr. Overweg, the author's companion,—comprehend the chief points of interest in the first three volumes.

The later narrative, which we have now received, details Dr. Barth's journey westward to Timbúktu for the purpose of establishing friendly relations with the Sultan of Sókoto, and procuring admission for European trade into the south-eastern districts of Africa. In November, 1852, with a train of seven servants and a broker, the traveller sets out from Kúkawa on his expedition to Timbúktu, from which place at first he represented to the Government that his principal object was to reach the Niger at the town of Say. The cold at that time of the year was great, and Dr. Barth had not recovered from sore legs, the effects of

the damp in crossing the rivers. Well-tilled fields, then thick trees and flocks of guinea-fowl enlivened the landscape, until the site of the ancient capital of Bôrnú is reached, six miles in circumference. The aisles of the mosque, the area of the palace built of baked bricks, and the six or seven gates are still traceable; but the only living things in the ruins were a pair of ostriches that hurried through the rank grass. After encountering thieves, who steal the blanket from under one of the servants, —after exchanging the region of the monkey bread-tree for that of the dum palm-trees,—they arrive at a little market-town called “the sweetness of the world,” and thence enter Búndi. Detached villages and fields of millet succeed—natives are observed digging saltpetre. Further on, in the open country, are cotton plantations, plots of garden, and rows of conical huts composing the town of Gúre perched on granite—a place of 8,000 inhabitants. The Sultan of the place was a mysterious person, whom none of his subjects ever saw eating. Like other African chiefs, he paid his debts by making a foray on his neighbours. The town is thus described.—

“I entered the town from the north-east quarter, and here found a large open space laid out in fields of wheat, kitchen-gardens, with onions, and cotton-grounds, all in different stages of cultivation: most of the beds where wheat was grown were just being laid out, the clods of dry earth being broken and the ground irrigated, while in other places the green stalks of the crop were already shooting forth. The onions were very closely packed together. Everywhere the fertilizing element was close at hand, and palm-trees were shooting up in several detached clusters; but large mounds of rubbish prevented my taking a comprehensive view over the whole, and the more so as the village is separated into four detached portions lying at a considerable distance from each other, and forming altogether a circumference of about three miles, with a population of from 8,000 to 9,000 inhabitants. But the whole is merely surrounded by a light fence. The principal cluster, or hamlet, surrounds a small eminence, on the top of which stands the house of the head man or mayor, built of clay, and having quite a commanding position, while at the north-eastern foot of the hill a very picturesque date grove spreads out in a hollow. The ground being uneven, the dwellings, like those in Gúre, are mostly situated in hollows; and the courtyards present a new and characteristic feature—for although the cottages themselves are built of reed and stalks of Negro corn, the corn-stacks, far from presenting that light and perishable appearance which they exhibit all over Háusa, approach closely that solid style of building which we have observed in the Múgu country, being built of clay, and rising to the height of ten feet. Wúshek is the principal place for the cultivation of wheat in the whole western part of Bôrnú; and if there had been a market that day, it would have been most profitable for me to have provided myself here with this article, wheat being very essential for me, as I had only free servants at my disposal, who would by no means undertake the pounding and preparing of the native corn, while a preparation of wheat, such as mohamsa, can be always kept ready; but the market of Wúshek is only held every Wednesday. In the whole of this country, one hundred shells, or kúngona, which are estimated equal to one gábagá, form the standard currency in the market; and it is remarkable that this sum is not designated by the Kanúri word ‘miye’ or ‘yéro,’ nor with the common Háusa word ‘dari,’ but by the name ‘zango,’ which is used only in the western parts of Háusa and in Sókoto. I had pitched my tent near the south-eastern hamlet, which is the smallest of the four, close to the spot where I had entered the place, not being aware of its extent; and from here I made, in the afternoon, a sketch of the mountain range towards the south, and the dry shelving level bordered by the strip of green verdure with the palm-trees in the foreground.

In the evening I was hospitably regaled by each of the two billama who govern the town, and I had the satisfaction of making a ‘tailor to His Majesty Múniyóma,’ who was residing here, very happy by the present of a few large darning-needles for sewing the libbedi or wadded dress for the soldiers.”

Signs of agricultural industry everywhere appear until the traveller reaches two remarkable lakes. One of natron, and dark green in colour like sea-water, the other of dark blue and smooth. After leaving Zinder, the capital of Western Bôrnú, and making purchases of cotton and silk, and prescribing for a number of patients, he passes into the Sókoto territory,—the prince of which expressed regret for the fate of Clapperton, and readily assented to the traveller's request to pass through his land to Timbúktu. A pair of richly-mounted pistols won the chieftain's heart. At Sókoto Dr. Barth visited the house where Capt. Clapperton died,—the valley thence is one uninterrupted rice-field. The great mart of Say on the Niger is the next point of interest.—

“While passing along the streets, I was delighted to observe a certain degree of industry displayed in small handicrafts and in the character of the interior of the households. Everything was very dear, but particularly butter, which was scarcely to be procured at all. All the currency of the market consists of shells; but I found the most profitable merchandise to be the black cloth for female apparel from Gando, which realized a profit of eighty per cent., while the Kanó manufactures did not find a ready sale. The black Núpe tobe, of common manufacture, bought in Gando for 3,300 shells, here fetched 5,000, while the black zenne, manufactured in Gando itself, and bought there for 1,050, sold here for 2,000. Of course all depends, in this respect, upon the momentary state of the intercourse of this quarter with Háusa; and, at the present time almost all communication with that manufacturing province being interrupted, it is easy to explain how an article produced in Gando could realize such a per-centage in a town at so short a distance from that place—a state of things which cannot form the general rule. At any rate for the English, or Europeans in general, Say is the most important place in all this tract of the river, if they ever succeed in crossing the rapids which obstruct the river above Rabba and especially between Búsa and Yáúri, and reaching this fine open sheet of water, the great high road of Western Central Africa. The traffic of the natives along the river is not inconsiderable, although even this branch of industry has naturally suffered greatly from the rebellious state of the adjacent provinces, more especially those of Zabérma and Déndina; so that, at present, boats did not go further down the river than Kírotáshi, an important place situated about fifteen miles lower down, on the western bank, while in the opposite direction, up the river, there was constant intercourse as far as Kindáji, with which place I made myself sufficiently acquainted on my return journey.”

In the territory of Yagha the rude smelting furnaces are noted (wood-ashes being placed on the ironstone till the metal runs out),—then the tidy huts, with the sticks suspended from the roof for weaving, the leather portfolio for writing, and baskets for household implements. The Songha territory is then entered, in which Dr. Barth meets an Arab, under whose protection he puts himself in order to enter Timbúktu. Adopting the advice of his companion, he represents himself as a scherrif carrying books from the East to the Sheikh,—a *ruse* which turns downward the points of 150 spears raised against him, and obliges him to lay his hands and bestow his blessing on the rather unclean spear-bearers. As he advances, he is able by presents of darning-needles to propitiate the industrious natives, and makes progress in the Songha language. His Arab companion proves treacherous, his race is suspected, and to avoid sus-

picion he repeats the opening prayer of the Koran. To the want of a sufficient firman from the Sultan, Dr. Barth attributes his subsequent difficulties which beset him on his entrance (September, 1853) into Timbúktu. The day after his arrival, he heard that Hammadi, the rival of the Sheikh, had informed the Fúlbe, or native people of the town, that he was a Christian, and they had come to the determination of killing him.—

“I was not allowed to stir about, but was confined within the walls of my house. In order to obviate the effect of this want of exercise as much as possible, to enjoy fresh air, and at the same time to become familiar with the principal features of the town, through which I was not allowed to move about at pleasure, I ascended as often as possible the terrace of my house. This afforded an excellent view over the northern quarters of the town. On the north was the massive mosque of Sankoré, which had just been restored to all its former grandeur through the influence of the Sheikh el Bakáy, and gave the whole place an imposing character. Neither the mosque Sidi Yáhia, nor the ‘great mosque,’ or Jingeré-bér, was seen from this point; but towards the east the view extended over a wide expanse of the desert, and towards the south the elevated mansions of the Ghadámsiye merchants were simple. The style of the buildings was various. I could see clay houses of different characters, some low and unseemly, others rising with a second story in front to greater elevation, and making even an attempt at architectural ornament, the whole being interrupted by a few round huts of matting. The sight of this spectacle afforded me sufficient matter of interest, although, the streets being very narrow, only little was to be seen of the intercourse carried on in them, with the exception of the small market in the northern quarter, which was exposed to view on account of its situation on the slope of the sand-hills, which, in course of time, have accumulated round the mosque. But while the terrace of my house served to make me well acquainted with the character of the town, it had also the disadvantage of exposing me fully to the gaze of the passers-by, so that I could only slowly, and with many interruptions, succeed in making a sketch of the scene thus offered to my view. At the same time I became aware of the great inaccuracy which characterizes the view of the town as given by M. Caillié; still, on the whole, the character of the single dwellings was well represented by that traveller, the only error being that in his representation the whole town seems to consist of scattered and quite isolated houses, while, in reality, the streets are entirely shut in, as the dwellings form continuous and uninterrupted rows. But it must be taken into account that Timbúktu, at the time of Caillié's visit, was not so well off as it is at present, having been overrun by the Fúlbe the preceding year, and he had no opportunity of making a drawing on the spot.”

This confinement enabled him, at his leisure, to survey and sketch the town from the terrace of his house. M. Caillié's view he found to be inaccurate, the town not consisting of scattered and isolated houses, but of streets entirely shut in, the dwellings forming continuous rows. The city lies in 17° 37' north and 3° 5' west of Greenwich, and has a steady population of 10,000.—

“Situated only a few feet above the average level of the river, and at a distance of about six miles from the principal branch, it at present forms a sort of triangle, the base of which points towards the river, whilst the projecting angle is directed towards the north, having for its centre the mosque of Sankoré. But, during the zenith of its power, the town extended a thousand yards further north, and included the tomb of the fáki Mahmúd, which, according to some of my informants, was then situated in the midst of the town. The circumference of the city at the present time I reckon at little more than two miles and a half; but it may approach closely to three miles, taking into account some of the projecting angles. Although of only

small size, Timbúktu may well be called a city—medina—in comparison with the frail dwelling-places all over Negroland. At present it is not walled. Its former wall, which seems never to have been of great magnitude, and was rather more of the nature of a rampart, was destroyed by the Fúlbe on their first entering the place in the beginning of the year 1826. The town is laid out partly in rectangular, partly in winding, streets, or, as they are called here, 'tjerátén,' which are not paved, but for the greater part consist of hard sand and gravel, and some of them have a sort of gutter in the middle. Besides the large and the small market there are few open areas, except a small square in front of the mosque of Yáhia, called Tímbutu-bóttema. Small as it is, the city is tolerably well inhabited, and almost all the houses are in good repair. There are about 980 clay houses, and a couple of hundred conical huts of matting, the latter, with a few exceptions, constituting the outskirts of the town on the north and north-east sides, where a great deal of rubbish, which has been accumulating in the course of several centuries, is formed into conspicuous mounds. The clay houses are all of them built on the same principle as my own residence, which I have described, with the exception that the houses of the poorer people have only one courtyard, and have no upper room on the terrace."

The arrival in the town of the Sheikh El Bakáy gave the traveller more confidence, in spite of the incessant intrigues of the rival chieftain for his death. In an interview with El Bakáy, Dr. Barth found that Major Laing had, after being plundered by the Tawárek, been the guest of the Sheikh's father. None of that unfortunate traveller's papers were, as far as he could ascertain, in existence. Several attempts were made to convert the traveller to Islamism; and, in December, news arrived that the Bérabish, who had murdered Major Laing, had resolved on his death. The festival of the birthday of Mohammed brought an influx of strangers into the town, and an interesting stranger.—

"The chief A'wáb, who paid me a long visit, in company with his mállem, and gave me the first account of the proceedings of that Christian traveller Mungo Park (to use his own words), who, about fifty years ago, came down the river in a large boat; describing the manner in which he had been first attacked by the Tawárek below Kábára, where he had lost some time in endeavouring to open a communication with the natives, while the Tin-ger-égedesh forwarded the news of his arrival, without delay, to the Igwádaren, who, having collected their canoes, attacked him, first near Bamba, and then again at the narrow passage of Tósaye, though all in vain; till at length, the boat of that intrepid traveller having stuck fast at Ensfmmo (probably identical with Ansóngo), the Tawárek of that neighbourhood made another fierce and more successful attack, causing him an immense deal of trouble, and killing, as A'wáb asserted, two of his Christian companions. He also gave me a full account of the iron hook with which the boat was provided against hippopotami and hostile canoes; and his statement altogether proved what an immense excitement the mysterious appearance of this European traveller, in his solitary boat, had caused among all the surrounding tribes."

The sudden death of the Bérabish Chieftain who had been intriguing for Dr. Barth's death, produces a great impression upon the people, the Doctor being generally believed to be the son of Major Laing, whom the father of the Bérabish Sheikh had murdered. El Bakáy endeavours to impress his people in favour of the Christian and his father. Take a picture of this good Moslem:—

"Part of the day the Sheikh read and recited to his pupils chapters from the hadith of Bokhári, while his young son repeated his lesson aloud from the Kurán, and in the evening several surát, or chapters, of the holy book were beautifully chanted by the pupils, till a late hour of the night. There

was nothing more charming to me than to hear these beautiful verses chanted by sonorous voices in this open desert country, round the evening fire, with nothing to disturb the sound, which softly reverberated from the slope of the sandy downs opposite. A Christian must have been a witness to such scenes in order to treat with justice the Mohammedans and their creed. Let us not forget that, but for the worship of images and the quarrels about the most absurdly superstitious notions which distracted the Christian Church during the seventh century, there would have been no possibility of the establishment of a new creed based on the principles of Monotheism, and opposed in open hostility to Christianity. Let us also take into account that the most disgusting feature attaching to the morals of Mohammedans has been introduced by the Mongolian tribes from Central Asia, and excited the most unqualified horror in the founder of the religion."

At Timbúktu the Niger rises to its highest level only in January,—an anomaly Dr. Barth accounts for, by the want of fall and the long windings of the stream.

On the 4th of January the boats from Kábára came under the walls of the city, and the price of corn fell. The only manufacturers of the town are blacksmiths and leather-workers. Gold and salt and kola-nuts are the great staples. All the cutlery in Timbúktu is of English manufacture. The calico, too, bears the stamp of a Manchester firm, in Arabic characters. Generally, the commercial prospects of the place, as far as Europe is concerned, the author thus sums up:—

"The difficulties which a place like Timbúktu presents to a free commercial intercourse with Europeans are very great. For while the remarkable situation of the town, at the edge of the desert and on the border of various races, in the present degenerated condition of the native kingdoms, makes a strong government very difficult, nay almost impossible, its distance from either the west coast or the mouth of the Niger is very considerable. But, on the other hand, the great importance of its situation at the northern curve or elbow of that majestic river, which, in an immense sweep encompasses the whole southern half of North Central Africa, including countries densely populated and of the greatest productive capabilities, renders it most desirable to open it to European commerce, while the river itself affords immense facilities for such a purpose. For, although the town is nearer to the French settlements in Algeria on the one side, and those on the Senegal on the other, yet it is separated from the former by a tract of frightful desert, while between it and the Senegal lies an elevated tract of country, nay, along the nearest road, a mountain chain extends of tolerable height. Further, we have here a family which, long before the French commenced their conquest of Algeria, exhibited their friendly feelings toward the English in an unquestionable manner, and at the present moment the most distinguished member of this family is most anxious to open free intercourse with the English. Even in the event of the greatest success of the French policy in Africa, they will never effect the conquest of this region. On the other hand, if a liberal government were secured to Timbúktu, by establishing a ruler independent of the Fúlbe of Hamda-Alláhi, who are strongly opposed to all intercourse with Europeans, whether French or English, an immense field might be opened to European commerce, and thus the whole of this part of the world might again be subjected to a wholesome organization."

After a sojourn of seven months the Doctor is finally obliged to leave the town, the intrigues of his enemies prevailing. The report of a victory gained by the French, and a suspicion that the stranger was connected with those invasions are items in the scale which preponderated against him. Here is a disagreeable incident, and an African opinion respecting Christians:—

"The Zoghorán officer, the companion of Férreji,

had come out on some errand, while I was staying with the three brothers in the large tent, which had been erected for Sidi Mohammed. I wanted to leave, but Bakáy begged me to stay. I therefore remained a short time, but became so disgusted with the insulting language of the Zoghorán, that I soon left abruptly, although his remarks had more direct reference to the French, or, rather, the French and half-caste traders on the Senegal, than to the English or any other European nation. He spoke of the Christians in the most contemptuous manner, describing them as sitting like women in the bottom of their steamboats, and doing nothing but eating raw eggs: concluding with the paradoxical statement, which is not very flattering to Europeans, that the idolatrous Bámbara were far better people, and much farther advanced in civilization than the Christians. It is singular how the idea that the Europeans are fond of raw eggs (a most disgusting article to a Mohammedan), as already proved by the experience of Mungo Park, has spread over the whole of Negroland, and it can only be partially explained by the great predilection which the French have for boiled eggs."

Everywhere as he turned his face westward the fear of the advance of the French disturbed the country. The chief wrote a letter interdicting them from penetrating into the interior. Here is an antiquarian note:—

"The whole history of Songhay points to Egypt; the itinerary of the route of the Naamones, if rightly constructed, inclines to this quarter; and it is easily to be understood how Herodotus, on receiving the news that so large a river was running eastward, in such a northerly latitude as nearly 18°, could conceive the opinion that this was the Upper Nile. Even in more modern times, we find Egyptian merchants established from the eleventh century in the town of Bírú, or Wáldá, side by side with those of Ghadámes and Tafilét; the principal commerce of Gágho and Kákia was directed towards Egypt, and the large commercial entrepôt—Sóik—of the tribe of the Tademékka, about 100 miles from Burrum, on that great high-road, was evidently founded for that purpose."

After an excursion to Gógó, parting with his steady friend El Bakáy, the traveller finally quits the Songhay territory, and riding out of the Forest of Búndi meets Dr. Vogel and the two English corporals. The two travellers compare notes and plans at Kúkawa in the beginning of 1855, and with the return journey to Tripoli the rest of the narrative is occupied. Of the merits of Dr. Barth as an indefatigable explorer there can be little doubt; his work is full of minute information, but it must be owned, after all, that five volumes of 600 pages each do not seriously incline in a traveller's favour, even philanthropic readers.

History of the Life of Arthur Duke of Wellington. From the French of M. Brialmont. With Emendations and Additions, by the Rev. G. R. Gleig. 3 vols. Vols. I. and II. (Longman & Co.)

WHEN noticing the French version of M. Brialmont's narrative, we remarked upon several of the qualities attributed to it by Mr. Gleig. It is a history undertaken in a spirit of extraordinary impartiality, and executed, in its military details, with a singular knowledge of the principles and details of military science. M. Brialmont has devoted himself to a study of the public and private character of the Duke of Wellington;—he has traced his campaigns with reverential accuracy, and he has even permitted his personal admiration to act so far as occasionally to rob the army of its merit in order to enhance the glory of its commander. As Mr. Gleig points out, the Duke's Despatches contain so many and so severe animadversions upon the conduct and discipline of the troops at his disposal that the British soldier engaged in the Peninsular War might be mistaken for

an insubordinate Goth, addicted to the worst excesses of Middle-Age devastation. M. Brialmont's translator and editor, however, is careful to correct these impressions, which from his mastery of the subject he is thoroughly competent to do; and the result is a work far more important than a mere translation. M. Brialmont had confined himself chiefly to an account of the Duke's military operations; with these Mr. Gleig has not interfered; they have been drawn up with perspicuity and candour:—

"But the case is different in regard to the Duke's career, both in early and later life. It is not only not surprising to find that here M. Brialmont falls short, but the marvel is how, with the opportunities which alone were open to him, he should have said so much and said it so well. I have endeavoured, as far as circumstances will allow, to supply what he was unable to give; and that no blame may attach to him for my mistakes, if unfortunately I commit them, I have placed whatever is original in the following pages within brackets."

—So far Mr. Gleig, with respect to the system he has adopted of incorporating biographical fragments from his own pen with the story as related by the Captain on the Belgian Staff. In his Preface he demurs to some of the opinions stated by M. Brialmont,—to his idea that the British troops are less impetuous in attack and less capable of enduring fatigue than those of any other nation,—to his estimate of Wellington as second in genius to Napoleon,—and to his criticisms on the rise and progress of the British Empire in the East. He then offers a personal explanation:—

"There was a time when the thought of becoming, sooner or later, the biographer of the great Duke 'haunted me like a passion.' I even went so far as to open the subject to his Grace himself in his lifetime. But the proposal was met with so much of wisdom, mixed with great kindness, that I could not do otherwise than abandon the idea on the instant. It was impossible, indeed, to fence with arguments which turned upon a generous respect for the reputation of others, or to doubt the fitness of postponing to some future age revelations which could not be made in the present, except at the cost of much private suffering, and no small amount of public inconvenience. The subsequent appearance in print of the Duke's Despatches may be said, indeed, to have so far modified this decision, that they make the world very fully acquainted with his career as a soldier and a diplomatist. And if the laudable purpose of his son and successor be persevered in, the materials will be arranged and prepared for the perfect accomplishment of a great task, by some biographer yet unborn. But more than this it would be idle in the present generation to expect. There are confidences in public as well as in private life, particularly among those to whom the destinies of empires have been intrusted, which must continue such—long after both the objects and the subjects of them have passed from the stage. To violate these prematurely could lead only to heart-burnings and confusion."

Having already characterized this interesting and in more than one sense remarkable biography, we shall leave it to the reader,—after making an extract in illustration of the author's style and of the manner in which it has been interpreted by Mr. Gleig. The passage is descriptive of the assault at Badajoz:—

"With a view to distract the attention of the enemy, orders were given to begin the attack at ten o'clock, upon all points at the same time. The weather was so gloomy, and the darkness so profound, that it was impossible to see the columns at a distance of twenty paces. Having assembled in the trenches, the troops marched forward, preceded by parties of men who carried ladders. Each soldier was supplied with a sack of hay, which he was to throw into the ditch in order to lessen its depth, and so the columns advanced to the glacis. And suddenly there was heard in the town the rattle of arms and the dull noise of bat-

talions, which threw themselves over the counter-scarp into the ditch. 'They come, they come!' cried a voice, and almost at the same instant a fearful explosion took place under the feet of the assailants. It was the noise of detonating balls, of shells and blazing rockets which Col. Lamare had arranged at the bottom of the breach. To the profound darkness, there succeeded all at once the light of an immense fire, which presented to the eyes a spectacle too horrible to be described. A wild cry of 'Vive l'Empereur!' replied from the ramparts to the groans of the poor soldiers huddled down pell-mell into the ditch, where they died by hundreds; and, at the same instant, there were directed upon the confused mass several discharges of case shot from the flanking batteries still untouched, and a rolling fire of musketry delivered at point blank by 700 chosen men, each furnished with three firelocks. The English columns appeared to be in the midst of a volcano, the eruptions of which, succeeding each other minute after minute, presented the appearance, at a distance, of showers of living flame. It was not a battle, it was, to adopt the expression of Col. Lamare, 'a massacre and butchery.' Meanwhile, the English, full of courage and perfectly calm, threw themselves a second time upon the breach. A *cunette* full of water separated them from the bottom of the ramparts. It was literally choked with dead, and upon that bridge of human flesh they passed it. And then might be seen the long red columns of the English dragging themselves like bloody serpents amidst the blazing ruins of the place, till a new obstacle presented itself before them. The slope of the breach which they believed to be entirely bare, was covered with shells and burning planks, stuck all over with nails and fireworks; and was swept with round shot and bullets. No matter! The columns continued to advance. But on gaining the summit they were stopped by a wall of bayonets and a line of *chevaux de frise*, constructed out of sword blades. In vain they strove to break that iron line. The dead were piled upon the dead, and the wounded fell into the arms of the soldiers who followed them. The breach became slippery with the blood which ran down it, and the line of swords could not be broken through. Seeing the success of their stratagem, the French raised anew the cry of 'Vive l'Empereur!' and the column of assault, slaughtered and decimated, fell back silently into the ditch, that it might prepare for a fresh effort."

As the work of a foreigner, upon a thoroughly English subject, and translated and edited with the best care of a proficient English writer, this publication has more than one claim to attention.

Eight Months' Campaign against the Bengal Sepoy Army, during the Mutiny of 1857. By Col. George Bouchier, C.B. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

NARRATIVES of personal adventure in India during the late famous campaigns are pouring in thickly upon us. The civilian, the soldier, and the chaplain are all contributing their quota to preserve the past from oblivion, and the future historian of the Indian revolt will find ample stores of information ready to his hand. Among these records none are more valuable than those supplied by able military men, who have themselves been a part of the scenes they describe. It is from their accounts that the historian will have to correct and supplement the Despatches of the general, often hurriedly written, under imperfect information, and sometimes with a natural partiality giving undue prominence to the names of superior officers, the success of whose dispositions should rather have been attributed to the efforts of those of an inferior grade.

Among the many gallant and skilful officers of the middle rank, who shine as stars of the first magnitude in the heavens of which Wilson, Nicholson, Havelock and Outram are suns,

there is no better or more gallant soldier to be found than the author of the volume before us. Col. George Bouchier was present in almost all the actions of importance from the destruction of the mutinous Siyálkot Brigade at Trimmu Ghát, to the signal overthrow of the Gwalior Contingent at Cawnpore, and the junction of Col. Seaton's column with Sir C. Campbell at Fatehgarh. We wish most sincerely that in describing the engagements he witnessed he had invariably depended on his own recollection, and left out the official Despatches and the narratives of others, or relegated them to an Appendix. The value of his book would then have been enhanced a thousand times. As it is, we have to select those parts in which he speaks as a witness should speak, expresses his own opinions, and narrates his own experiences.

The battle of Trimmu Ghát is one of those scenes, the description of which fairly claims our notice; but before referring to it we must not omit to mention the opinion of the celebrated man who commanded our troops in the engagement, as to the causes of the revolt. We have not elsewhere met with this opinion of General Nicholson, which Col. Bouchier gives in the following words:—

"Neither greased cartridges, the annexation of Oudh, nor the paucity of European officers were the causes. For years I have watched the army and felt sure they only wanted their opportunity to try their strength with us."

To return to the Siyálkot mutineers. It will be remembered that on the 9th of July 1857, the 46th Bengal N.I. and a wing of the 9th Cavalry mutinied at Siyálkot, and after the murder of Brigadier Brind, and several other officers, marched to Ghordaspur to form a junction there with another native regiment, and a corps of Irregular Cavalry. General Nicholson, who was at Amritsar with H.M.'s 52nd, some Sikh infantry, Hodson's Horse just raised, and some artillery of which Col. Bouchier's battery formed a part, started immediately to intercept the mutineers. After a terrific march, in which the Europeans suffered dreadfully from the heat, the scene of action was at length reached, and we will leave our author to tell what followed.—

"The ground chosen by the enemy was most favourable for their operations; in their front was a deep narrow strip of water, over which was only one bridge, and their flanks were protected by villages. Scarcely had the Artillery crossed the bridge, and were forming on the opposite side, screened by the Punjab levies, than down came the 9th Cavalry upon their flanks (before the 52nd could form to receive them), gnashing their teeth, and worked up to the utmost with intoxicating drugs: they cut right and left at the gunners and drivers. Away scampered the mounted levies back to Goordaspore; the enemy pushed out their skirmishers to within fifty yards of the guns, and a tremendous volley from the whole line, delivered as simultaneously as if on parade at Sealkote, made things at first look very ugly. In five minutes the scene was changed: not a trooper of the 9th Cavalry who charged the guns left the batteries alive. The infantry formed on our flanks, and a well-directed pounding of grape and shrapnell, from nine guns, aided by the rifles of the infantry, soon told its tale. In about twenty minutes the fire of the enemy was subdued; in ten minutes more they were in full retreat towards the river, leaving between three or four hundred killed and wounded on the field. Had the General but possessed a squadron or two of Cavalry, not a man could have escaped. The Sikhs, less done up by the sun than the Europeans, advanced, gallantly led by Lieutenant Boswell. The horses were nearly as much done up as the men, and could hardly get up a canter to the river bank; where we took possession of all the baggage and stores crossed over by the enemy, consisting chiefly of arms, ammunition, and

clothing, the property of Government; and carriages, furniture, and property belonging to the officers at Sealkote. At the river we immediately came under the fire of an iron gun, which, with immense labour, they had dragged with them, and posted on an island, 1,100 yards from the main bank. To attempt to cross that evening was impossible; a few rounds were fired at a party of men standing round the gun, which dispersed them into the jungle. Leaving the Punjab Infantry, under Lieutenant Boswell, to keep the Ford and protect the captured property, the column returned that evening to Goordaspore. Thus ended the first day's operations against the Sealkote Brigade. It was long after dark before we arrived in camp, I can fairly say, dead beat. A sergeant died by my side of sheer exhaustion, and many of the 52nd shared the same fate. None who have not experienced it know what those exposed on a battlefield suffer in India in the month of July. As we were returning to camp, my servant brought me a bottle of beer; I poured out a tumbler; a sergeant of the 52nd passed me, and fairly turned round to stare at it: such a look of exhaustion I never before saw; he said not a word. I offered him the tumbler; his 'God bless you, sir!' was an ample reward."

Here we see that the mutineers, though scattered like dust before the English troops, were by no means a contemptible foe. They selected their ground with great judgment, charged our guns right bravely, and delivered their first volleys as steadily and simultaneously as on parade. It is quite certain that no Asiatic antagonist would have had a chance with them, and we doubt whether Russians or Germans would have found them much below their match. It is important to remember this in estimating the value of our native army. There was no unanimity of purpose, or action, amongst the mutineers. They had a bad cause, and were suddenly deprived of their European officers, by whom they were accustomed to be led. The native officers, who now took the command of regiments, brigades, and armies had never had the advantage of manoeuvring or commanding any body of troops larger than a company. The old musket of the Sipáhi was a miserable weapon, compared with our Enfield rifles. Shells and rockets they may be said to have had none. These things must be taken into consideration, if we would arrive at the true value of a Sipáhi army. Col. Bouchier everywhere bears testimony to the gallantry of the natives he commanded. Thus he says of his senior non-commissioned officer, "A more gallant soldier never lived."

As Nicholson's column was moving down upon Delhi our author made a flying visit to Simla to deposit his family in security; and in rejoining the column traversed 168 miles in twenty-five hours—no mean performance. After the fall of Delhi, Col. Bouchier's battery was attached to Greathed's column, and figured in all its engagements. Here is a strange fact, taken from what is mentioned about Koorjah.—

"Had the column been accompanied, for political purposes, by a civilian of the Punjab stamp—men who, taking their cue from Sir John Lawrence, indulge in a little common sense, and possess the feelings of soldiers as well as collectors of revenue—or even had Colonel Greathed been left to his own judgment, the advance of the column would have been of more essential service to the State, and punishment would have been administered where it was merited. Will it be believed? as we entered Koorjah, a skeleton was stuck up on the roadside, exposed to public gaze, against a wall. The head had been severed from the body, and cuts in the shin-bones were apparent, inflicted by some sharp instrument; and, in the opinion of a medical committee, this skeleton was that of a European female. But still the town paid a large sum yearly to Government, and on that account, in the opinion of the collector, was to be spared."

In some subsequent remarks on the panic which prevailed at Agra, we think our author a little too severe. The fort of Agra was, no doubt, strong; guns and ammunition were abundant, but the garrison was scanty and sickly, and cooped up for months with a sea of rebellion around them, and defeated in the only battle they fought, no wonder they were dejected. With this little exception, we think that Col. Bouchier has given a right manly, fair and forcible statement of events, and the reader will derive much pleasure and instruction from his pages.

Maine de Biran: his Life and his Thoughts—[Maine de Biran: sa Vie et ses Pensées]. By Ernest Naville. (Paris, Cherbuliez.)

M. Cousin has pronounced Maine de Biran to be the greatest metaphysician that has honoured France since Malebranche; and, allowing for a touch of rhetorical exaggeration in its form, the verdict is substantially a correct one. Of the small but distinguished band of thinkers who, in the early part of the present century, revolted from Sensualism and broke the sceptre of Condillac's authority, M. de Biran was certainly the most original, independent, and profound. Laromiguière, with whom the re-action commenced, contributed to the overthrow of the reigning ideology indirectly rather than directly. Without formally separating himself from the school, he introduced indeed a fundamental distinction that was really fatal to its exclusive claims. The elevation of Sensation from the passive position assigned it by Condillac—that of a predominant sensation—into an active exertion of the mind laid the axe at the root of the entire system. But Laromiguière, content with making it the basis of a new classification without developing its deeper significance, remained in the main faithful to the doctrines of his master. He contributed to the progress of the re-action far more by the ease and vigour of his style, the charm of his manner as a speaker, the general interest in philosophical questions excited by his lectures, than by his original speculations as a thinker. Royer-Collard was admirably fitted to carry on the work begun by Laromiguière, and soon proved himself one of the most formidable opponents of the existing philosophy. Naturally eloquent, gifted with a clear, nervous, and impressive style, he evinced in his lectures a moral earnestness, a logical force and love of truth, that awakened the enthusiasm of his pupils, and secured for the doctrines taught not only attention and inquiry, but an eager welcome. These doctrines, however, were not his own. The source of his philosophic inspiration was wholly foreign. Opposed to Sensualism at first more from feeling than from clear intellectual conviction, for practical rather than speculative reasons, Royer-Collard found in Reid's 'Essays' just the instrument of attack he needed,—and in the polemic he subsequently carried on, while the rhetorical fervour and logical force are his own, the method and principles are confessedly borrowed from the Scotch divine. He but reproduces against Condillac and De Holbach the arguments urged by Reid against Locke and Hume. M. Cousin, the friend and pupil of both Laromiguière and Royer-Collard, is more indebted to foreign influences than either. Far above his predecessors in literary accomplishments, rhetorical power, critical skill, and varied erudition, he can claim scarcely any distinction on the score of originality. His rare literary faculty and wide knowledge of opinions have indeed been rather a snare in his path as an independent thinker, leading him continually to expound the opinions of others rather

than to investigate for himself and elaborate a system of his own. Among the opponents of Sensualism, M. Cousin stands out as the most persevering, successful, and distinguished. He has combated it by arguments drawn from every quarter of the philosophic hemisphere in every period of its history, from the Academic groves of Athens, the schools of Alexandria, and the hermitages of the Desert; from Brahminical temples, Jewish synagogues, and Moslem laboratories; from mediæval cloisters and monastic class-rooms, as well as from German and Scotch Universities. But he has not adduced a single fresh argument. He has searched through the whole philosophic armoury for warlike implements, polished up those that suited him, and handled them with surprising adroitness; but he has forged no new weapons either of attack or defence. M. Cousin's pupil and colleague, M. Jouffroy, is the only philosopher of the re-action who can be compared with M. de Biran as an original thinker. The comparison is, however, scarcely perhaps a fair one. In some respects M. Jouffroy was superior to M. de Biran:—he had a more cultivated, comprehensive, and scientific intellect, was more accurate as an observer, and better disciplined as a thinker; but then he enjoyed far greater advantages. Educated at Paris in the midst of the revived philosophic activity, he received a thoroughly scientific training, and inherited at the outset of his philosophical career the ample results of his predecessors' labours. M. de Biran, on the other hand, worked for the most part in solitude and alone. He received but little help either from his contemporaries at home or from the foreign schools of philosophy to which they were so largely indebted. His polemic against Sensualism was from the first pre-eminently his own. It began in the form of slight opposition almost before the re-action, at a time when Condillac's supremacy was still unquestioned, and grew with the development of his thought into the most decisive and irreconcilable antagonism. Commencing as a disciple of Condillac, he gradually, by self-observation and reflection, worked his solitary way from Sensualism to a Spiritualism of the loftiest and most exclusive kind.

But, though the most independent and original of recent French psychologists, M. de Biran is more rarely studied and less generally known than any other. Readers of modern philosophical works are probably acquainted with his name, at second or third hand, in connexion with the problem of Causality; his theory on that subject having certain points of originality that generally secure for it at least a passing notice in most discussions of the question. More active philosophic students have perhaps studied the theory itself in the volume of M. de Biran's 'Philosophic Fragments,' published by his friend and editor, M. Cousin, upwards of twenty years ago. But it may be pretty safely asserted that no students of philosophy in this country, and scarcely a dozen in France, have ever studied De Biran as they study Cousin and Jouffroy, or indeed have ever read the whole of his philosophical writings. The explanation of this fact is to be found in the matter and style of his metaphysical essays. With regard to the matter, M. de Biran is mainly occupied in his philosophical treatises with the most difficult and obscure department of mental inquiry—the phenomena of the Will. This was the result both of his philosophic training and of his temperament. Educated among the ideologists, he had early felt the imperfection and one-sidedness of their doctrine, especially on its moral side. By making man the powerless victim of sensations, it practically destroyed freedom and responsi-

bility. M. de Biran set himself to rescue morality from the threatened destruction, by detecting in the operations of the mind the element of voluntary activity, which it necessarily presupposes. In these efforts to redeem the mind from the state of utter passivity to which the theory of Condillac had reduced it, he was naturally led to investigate the class of facts in which activity was specially manifested, and where, therefore, the element of original and controlling power was likely to be found. Among the earliest passages of his diary, published in the volume before us, a passage written in the year 1794, just at the commencement of his philosophical studies, we find the following instructive sentence:—"It is greatly to be desired that some one accustomed to observe himself would analyze the will as Condillac has analyzed the understanding." This sentence, penned at its outset, is the key to the whole of his philosophical career. In the thirty years that followed he endeavoured to supply the defect he had thus early indicated. His first philosophical essay, entitled 'Influence de l'Habitude,' read before the Institute in 1802, and published in 1803, sufficiently indicated the general direction as well as the spirit and method of his inquiries. The object of the Memoir was to vindicate the activity of the mind, and the method pursued, that of self-observation—the interrogation of consciousness. He starts with the observed fact with regard to the influence of habit on our sensations and perceptions, that repetition invariably weakens the former and strengthens the latter,—that the effect of a smell or taste, for instance, is weakened by continuance, and at last destroyed, while the longer we look at an object the better we know it. The explanation of this fact is, that in the one case the mind is active, in the other passive. In looking at an object for the purpose of knowing it, the mind exerts itself; while in receiving the impression of light or colour it is wholly passive. The perception is voluntary, the sensation involuntary,—in other words, there is an element of activity, a conscious exertion of power in the one which does not exist in the other. The distinction between active and passive habits, therefore, furnishes a proof of the mind's independent activity. In his next essay—his 'Mémoire sur la Décomposition de la Pensée'—he opposes Sensualism in a still more decided manner. The Memoir deals with Condillac's doctrine touching the transformation of sensations. M. de Biran points out the absurdity of such a doctrine in a system which maintains that the mind is wholly passive, and which admits, therefore, of no power by which such transformation could be effected. Sensation is passive by its very nature, and cannot transform itself, and there is nothing in the mind except what is furnished by sensation. Condillac's doctrine is thus convicted of self-contradiction. The transformation he affirms, involves the active power he denies. M. de Biran developed and applied these views on the will as the central faculty of the mind, in various Memoirs contributed to different European Societies, during the next ten years, and subsequently endeavoured to embody the results of all his inquiries in a single work, to be entitled 'Essai sur les Fondements de la Psychologie.' Before his death, however, he changed both the designation and the plan of this his greatest work, and his matured system was to have been given to the world under the title of 'Nouveaux Essais d'Anthropologie.' This work, though left almost complete in its first form, with considerable fragments of the second, still remains unpublished.

In his various published treatises M. de Biran

has thrown considerable light on the difficult problem of the will which he undertook to investigate. But his zeal on behalf of a faculty which the sensualists had so much neglected led him into an opposite extreme equally one-sided and erroneous. If Condillac overlooked the special phenomena of the will, M. de Biran is chargeable with an omission almost as serious in overlooking the special phenomena of intelligence. As Condillac evolves the will out of the elements furnished by sensation, so M. de Biran evolves intelligence out of the will. He recognizes only two classes of facts in the mind, those connected respectively with its activity and passivity, with sensation and volition. The will is not simply the condition, but the constituent of intelligence, the source of knowledge as well as power. His reasoning in briefest outline is as follows. The conscious *ego* is the peculiar characteristic of man, that which raises him above the brutes, the essence in fact of humanity. But what is the nature of this self or *ego*, and where is it to be found? It is not passive, but active,—not abstract, but concrete,—not a sensation or conception, but a volition. It must be looked for, not among the phenomena of feeling or knowledge, but among those of voluntary activity. It manifests itself in consciousness as a determining power,—in a word, as the will. Effort, therefore, according to M. de Biran, is the primitive fact of self-consciousness, perception and reasoning being but derivative phenomena in our internal experience. Not only, however, is will in this way the faculty through which we obtain all empirical knowledge: it is the unique source of all necessary truths. The *ego* is identical with the will, and the will manifesting itself as both a force and a cause uncompounded and unconstrained, we have, in the consciousness of its activity, the universal and necessary notions of unity, freedom, power, and causality. Finally, it follows as a not unnatural corollary from this doctrine, that we have an immediate knowledge of ourselves. The will is the man himself, the reality and essence of his nature. In its working, therefore, we are brought face to face with the naked personality or self, have a direct and immediate perception of the living reality which manifests itself in the facts of consciousness. It is not at all surprising that, in the development of his favourite doctrine, M. de Biran should have reached this point. Tempted, like most logical and enthusiastic thinkers, to reduce all the facts of mind to the one class with which he was most familiar, he naturally enough made will the essence of the mind. In the same way, other theorists, according to the bent of their minds and the direction of their favourite inquiries, have made feeling or knowledge the primitive element, the absolute essence of the soul. It need scarcely be said that the mind is neither of these exclusively, but all, and more than all, the original and permanent source of these compound and co-ordinate manifestations. Notwithstanding its oneness and exaggeration, M. de Biran's analysis of the will is a valuable contribution to the philosophy of the active powers. If he did not fully solve the problem he had undertaken, he at least explained its nature, signalized its importance, and, by fixing the attention of other inquirers on this neglected department of mind, secured its recognition as a most important branch of psychological research. In enumerating his obligations to the various masters who had guided his course, M. Cousin says emphatically,—"With M. Maine de Biran I studied particularly the phenomena of the will. That admirable observer taught me to disengage in all our knowledge, and even in the most

simple facts of consciousness, the element of voluntary activity, of that activity in which our personality is manifested."

Despite the exclusive nature of his inquiries, M. de Biran's philosophical essays might, however, have enjoyed a fair share of popularity, but for their style, which is more obscure and repulsive than the matter. His sentences are cumbrous, prolix, and involved, and his pages so crowded with abstract and technical terms, that it becomes difficult for an ordinary reader to understand them at all. This does not arise from any confusion in the thought, but simply from carelessness of expression, from the want of literary skill, the absence of all thought or care about style. M. de Biran was a solitary thinker pursuing philosophy in retirement, not for fame or power, but simply from a subjective impulse ever prompting him to analyze and explain to himself his own nature. He has no consideration for his readers,—never, indeed, thinks of others. Having recorded the results of his inquiries and reflections in a manner intelligible to himself, he is quite satisfied. In this respect he is almost alone amongst his countrymen. However deficient in originality or power French philosophical works may be, they generally have the charm of a clear and flowing style. This arises partly, no doubt, from the Gallic facility of speech in general, but principally from the fact, that most philosophic writers in France have been men of the world, moving in a large and brilliant social circle, or connected in some way with public life, and thus trained to the effective use of language as an instrument of thought. Most of M. de Biran's contemporaries and successors, Laromiguière, Royer-Collard, Cousin, Jouffroy, were public lecturers,—and the necessity for clear exposition which their public duties imposed had the happiest influence on their style, giving it a vigour, ease, and directness it would scarcely otherwise have possessed. But M. de Biran had no such public duties to correct the philosophical and literary vices of solitary, self-absorbed speculation. It is true that for some years he was connected with public life as Councillor of State and Member of the Chamber of Deputies, but he took no active part in public affairs. He disliked political life, indeed, and was constitutionally unfitted for it. His public duties were burdensome, the noise and bustle of crowds hateful, and the necessity for speaking in public always irksome, sometimes even appalling. He had no power as a speaker, was not in the least a man of action, and could never have succeeded as a statesman. Amidst the crowds of Paris he still lived in a world of his own. He loved above all things solitude and repose, and was never so much at home as in the retirement of his patrimonial estate at Grateloup; never so happy as when slowly pacing its leafy walks in the mellowed light of autumn sunset, lost in a pensive but delicious reverie of mingled thought and feeling, and striving to analyze the elements of which it was composed. His life is indeed the true key to his philosophical writings. It sufficiently explains their peculiarity both of matter and form. This key—indispensable to the intelligent study of his works—is fully supplied for the first time in the volume at the head of our article recently published by M. de Biran's friend, M. Naville. The first part of the volume is a biography of M. de Biran by M. Naville,—the second consists of extracts from a diary which M. de Biran kept for many years as a record of his philosophical progress and personal experience. The extracts, which come down to the last year of his life, prove that the moral earnestness which marked his philosophical inquiries pervaded his life,

and grew by degrees into a religious depth and fervour of which his published writings contain hardly a trace. They show the influence which his personal experience, and especially the growth of his religious character, had upon the development of his philosophical views. In reading his 'Journal Intime' you feel what a sincere and conscientious thinker he was throughout, and see the steps by which he gradually passed from the lowest Sensualism to a Spiritualism scarcely less pure and absolute than that of Fichte. Commencing as a thinker with Condillac and Voltaire, he ended with Thomas à Kempis and Fénelon. His published writings do not explain this great change; but to the reader of his private thoughts, the record of his moral and religious progress contained in this volume, it will no longer be any mystery.

The Life of Blessed Franco, extracted and Englished from a very ancient Chronicle of the Monastery of Villare, in Brabant, with Preface and Appendix. By Ven. Arthur Rowan, D.D. Archdeacon of Ardfer. (Dublin, Hodges & Smith.)

It is known to the most of us that Walter Mapes was not the only clerical gentleman who wrote lively songs. The great St. Bernard himself could turn a joyous stave, compose, and sing it, in any monkish *soirée* where the company had ears and called upon that esteemed gentleman to favour them. Abelard was another of this agreeable brotherhood; a poor, selfish fellow, who cared little what eyes wept so long as his tongue wagged to merry tune and metre. Like Goldsmith, Abelard was a song-writer, and we confess to a curiosity for knowing what kind of melody he poured in the ear of that rather forward young lady, Heloise; and how rang the ditties which he warbled at St. Dives to the laughter of the monks. Were the former after the fashion of Moore's Fanny of Timmol, or were they according to the type by which the vivaciously pious melodist set his 'St. Jerome's Love'? Did his table ditties resemble "The world is all a fleeting show," or "Fill the bumper fair"? We are earnest in now asking; because we have been waiting a score of years for the complete collection of those songs. In 1838, the enviable Abbé Baini discovered, not only the songs, but the music to which they were sung. The lucky and musical Abbé found the treasure in the library of the Vatican. After twenty years, we cannot be accused of impatience in inquiring as to the whereabouts and the destiny of a set of compositions which would make the fortune of half the music-shops throughout the world. Have they really been thrust back again into the dust and darkness amidst which they had so long nestled? Are they unworthy of their reputation, or have the examiners found them a little too lively for the present standard of morals? Here is a case of the utmost interest, and we call upon the Abbé Baini or his representatives, or the authorities to whom they owe obedience, to have compassion upon us literary sinners, to think of our curiosity and not of our morals, and let us have the work. Surely, the Abbé Gaume will come to our aid. The author of the 'Ver Rongeur' declares that youth is ruined past redemption by reading such pagan authors as Anacreon and Horace. There is as good Greek and as sparkling Latin, he says, to be found in the pleasant compositions of Christian bards less known to fame. Well, M. l'Abbé, here is one of them. Pray edit these songs of Peter Abelard, or we shall be half inclined to suspect that the *chants*

et *chansons* of the great preacher of his day are warmer and stronger than the odes of either Teian or Venusian.

Meanwhile, let us be grateful to other discoverers. Here is before us a very good, and a very long song; it tells the history of a soldier-monk; is intended to be exceedingly religious, and may be sung to the tune of "Miss Bailey," or "I sing a doleful tragedy, Guy Faux the prince of sinisters."

It is true that Archdeacon Rowan calls the song a " quaint rhythmical biography," but it is an excellent song, nevertheless. It is an extract from a Chronicle of the Cistercian Convent of Villare, in Brabant; which chronicle forms the third out of five volumes of a curious collection published nearly a century and a half ago in Paris, under the title of 'Thesaurus Novus Anecdotorum.' The compilers were Martene and Durand, a couple of excellent Benedictines, and they were, doubtless, depreciated by all the Benedictine "snobs" who enjoyed the book and affected to sneer at the editors.

Franco of Brabant was a man of good family, father of two sons, and all three were soldiers. He lost his boys in battle, but he thwacked gigantic Saracens with such good will that the Paynims asked for a truce in order to give them an opportunity of having a good look at the marvellous soldier without fearing for their souls and bodies. Lastly, after serving as ambassador to the Soldan, and becoming sated with honours, he retired to the convent before named, which was the only form of club—quiet, respectable, regular, chatty, with time for everything, all in moderation—that was to be found in those days. Franco must have been a great favourite, for it was a monk of the same house who became his biographer, as is clear from the line—

In hoc domo monachus factus est claustralis.

He was a "gentleman," refined, placid, white-haired, bland, affable, and amiable. He was pious, but not presumptuous—sang to the best of his power, like many another brave soldier,—was as cheery as he was devout, and not being a bore in any sense, the whole community became attached to him accordingly.—

Ita cunctis fratribus fuit gratiosa.
Quod nec gravis extitit, nec fastidiosa.

or, as the Archdeacon prettily puts it—

Hence all the brotherhood at last came cordially to love him,
For he never *prosed*, nor spoke to one as if he felt above him.

And here is another graphic touch, with the Archdeacon's rendering.—

Hic per claustrum quoties transiens meavit,
Hinc et hinc ad Monachos caput inclinavit;
Et sic nutu capitis eos salutavit
Quos affectu intimo plurimum amavit.

When passing through the cloisters, 'twas with general salutation,
Bowing his head, this way and that, in courteous inclination;
A kindlier nod, and given with more friendly animation,
He kept for those who in his love possess'd an inner station.

We pass over the descriptions of his self-denial, his love for his Order, his conscientiousness to fulfil its rules, and his small care for what Dr. Johnson emphatically declared ought essentially to be cared for, namely, the "belly." Generally speaking, Franco was grave; but he could give a sly hit at a brother.—

Before his death a certain monk was heard to Franco saying, "Dear brother, when we both are found the debt of nature paying,

I trust we shall not both depart the selfsame hour or day in,
For in company with you I'd scarce to glory find my way in."

To this suggestion Franco was as prompt in thus replying,
"You would act with proper prudence any such conjunction flying.

For God will be so occupied with me in act of dying,
That your appeals, he'll sure be found neglecting or denying.

"Those blessed ones will, each and all, find such sweet occupation

In aiding me while I proceed in my aërostation,
That your decease, should you die then, will cause no great sensation.

Nor will they welcome you above, with any great elation."

As he grew old and infirmity increased, the good ancient man, truth to tell, did get a trifle prosy and self-sufficient; and, on one occasion, he seems to have so much perplexed the brethren, and yet moved them to laughter, that the artist, while he paints the scene, is evidently unable to tell us the entire cause of it:—

Unde per silentium nolo occultare
Sed hoc manifestius volo declarare
Quod cum Franco debuit cursum consummare
Quoddam dulce canticum corpi decantare.

Sed præsentes aliqui quia nesciebant
Quid hoc esset canticum, aut intelligebant
Quendam ad alterutrum risum emittebant
Et tanquam ludibria vana deridebant.

Now there's a certain shameful fact I feel compelled to mention,

And in candour to submit it to the general attention,
When Franco's soul was on the point of heavenly ascension,
He sang a song of sweetness nigh surpassing comprehension.

But some of those around the bed, who neither comprehended

The old man's "Euthanasia," nor what his song intended,
From lip to lip, and eye to eye, derivative smile extended,
And in making mock of what they heard, these foolish men offended.

May not the *dulce canticum* have been a pleasant song of the monk's soldier days, into the singing of which he was drawn by weakness and forgetfulness? If it was, indeed, a holy song, they were but sorry fellows who 'ad alterutrum risum emittebant.' Perhaps Franco broke out, unconsciously wandering, with, "Oh! what a charming thing's a battle." Were a pious modern military chaplain, in a moribund condition, to begin carolling—

A soldier, a soldier, a soldier for me;

His arms are so bright,

And he looks so upright,

So gallant and gay,

When he trips it away.

Who is so nice and well powder'd as he?

Sing rub a dub; a dub rub a dub; a dub a dub dub dub;—

Thunder and plunder!

A soldier, a soldier, a soldier for me!

—If a chaplain-general himself in a sick fit of aberration were to break out with such a canticle, were all the bench of bishops at his side they would hardly be able to forbear smiling. However this may be, the chronicler stands up for the piety of Franco; and, by so doing, censures his convent:—

Thereth a brother standing by, in sorrowful dejection,
Who loved the aged Franco with a true entire affection,
And watched his parting moments, with most sedulous inspection,
In spirit stirred, reproved these men with suitable correction.

For presently this friendly monk his aged friend addressing,
Said:—"Brother, I feel indignation I can't help confessing,
When I find certain scoffers here their mockery expressing,
While they hear you hymning goodly songs, and piety professing.

"Now if, as I believe, you sang by heavenly inspiration,
Sing one more hymn I pray you of God's direct dictation,
And give those godless scoffing ones such thorough confutation,
That they may feel ashamed for their unbelieving cackination."

Then Franco, although moribund, as if this wish consulting,
Began at once a hymn divine, and sang in strains exulting,
As he would say "my holy lay, I trust, will this result in,
That I shall shame these ribald monks who have been thus insulting."

Accordingly, he administers a sermon which does not seem to have had the effect of the *dulce canticum*; and soon after dies to the edification of all beholders. The minstrel is about to add some comment of his own; but he pulls up with the excellent remark:—

Quia cibis nimis solet generare
Vomitum, propterea nolo prolongare.

—We, too, will take the hint that, "food, used to excess, to nausea but tendeth," and having enabled our readers to form an idea of the literary ability of the Chronicle and of the translation, have only to add, that in the Introduction, Notes, and Appendix, will be found a mass of

illustrative matter creditable equally to the learning, research, and judgment of Archdeacon Rowan.

Life of Mary Anne Schimmel-Penninck, Author of 'Select Memoirs of Port Royal,' and other Works. Edited by her Relation, Christiana C. Hankin. 2 vols. (Longman & Co.)

THE first part of this work is autobiographical; and, though prosy, is the work of one who possessed thought, sense, recollection, arrangement—the habit of composition, the touch of an artist. But the Autobiography was undertaken after its writer had reached threescore years and ten;—too late to be completed. Such a task is one always more or less melancholy. The remote past is charming to paint: the early recollections of childhood are pleasant to dwell on, though they include grief and discipline; but from the time that the character has formed itself,—that the heart has begun to know its own sorrow,—that the brain has dreamed those dreams of its own which can be thoroughly unfolded to none, save it be a bosom friend,—remembered failures, disappointments, bereavements, hang a weight on the pen which elderly and feeble persons (naturally averse to the opening of old graves, and the divulging of hopes and affections which, in their prime, were almost sacred), feel as a restraint and a stumbling-block. How few, even among men, are those who have been able to complete the story of their lives, once commenced!—Scott, Southey, Moore, all tried—all paused—possibly none among them knew why, and as little conceived such pause to mean final abandonment of a task so difficult and delicate. But the fact explains why the aged woman who began, faltered and ceased as she approached the point when her story would have had the most interest. Mrs. Schimmel-Penninck's relative, who has contributed the second moiety to this publication, however well intentioned, however reverential to the memory of the deceased, however cautious to avoid giving pain to survivors, is so vague and feeble that she must not wonder should her book fall to the ground, and her life of a remarkable woman seem (except to an initiated few) anything but remarkable as regards its subject.

The distinguishing feature of a life and career like hers—as illustrating the social life, intellectual culture, and high aspiration of the burgher class in England since the '45—has passed entirely without note or comment. Nevertheless, any future historian of English opinion or society—who examines the ways, means, and influences of our opulent middle classes in our provincial towns—in relation to trade and manufacture, as distinguished from profession, official or scholastic—will be struck by the long list of families among whose papers may be found documents as nobly significant as those which give value to the muniment chest of Howard, or Talbot, or other aristocratic race. Lloyd of Birmingham, Taylor and Palgrave of Norwich, Reynolds of Bristol, Rathbone of Liverpool, are only a few among many, meriting their inscription in the Golden Book as lofty-minded, liberal, intelligent persons, in advance of their time,—superior to the tricks of the art of getting-on,—high-toned, and free from the trammels of creed or sectarianism, rich (and of new riches), yet clear of coquetism or vulgar ostentation. Goldsmith poetized about—

A bold peasantry, its country's pride;

—but, in homelier prose, we appeal to the remarkable enlightenment, achievement, and elevation of such mercantile families of England as these—taken in conjunction with such discoverers as our Brindleys, Arkwrights, Peels, Stephensons, Paxtons—as to one of the leading

causes why this often-menaced island of ours has not altogether "rotted down into the sea," when so many an ancient throne has crumbled, and so many a gifted people has degenerated, and so many a great city and goodly country become a place of ruin and requiem.

Mrs. Schimmel-Penninck belonged to one of these families. She was a Galton of Birmingham, her mother a Barclay. Her father was a rich and ingenious manufacturer; as such, conversant with that Lichfield set—the Days, Edgeworths, Darwins, &c.—who figure in the Edgeworth and Seward Memoirs. Her parents were nominally Quakers; but father and mother were alike "outward bound" (as the phraseology of the sect had it). The latter was a strong-minded, highly-endowed woman, who brought up the girl on classical history and Spartan principles of endurance: a woman to whom a lie was impossible,—not therefore untender,—but who could not see how the caprices and originalities which stood, for her, in the stead of laws and exceptions—could merely be imperfectly accepted by one as capricious and original who was to come after her. Yet, like other original and somewhat despotic characters, she was bowed down to and beloved. It is not always the considerate, the self-sacrificing, who inspire the most affection. A false or unamiable person, who can fascinate, in spite of falsehood and lack of amiability, may die surrounded by

Honour, love, obedience, troops of friends.

—An ill-tempered woman may be more precious for her rare gleams of generosity and sharp repentance than the best of her sex, whose life has been devoted to the sparing and the saving of others. Mrs. Galton was neither false, nor unamiable, nor ill-tempered: but she seems to have been inconsistent, with all her liberality, and singular in the manner of working out high professions. She chose, as we have said, to bring up her daughter as a Spartan—in the midst of a house rich in creature comforts. Pain was to be held by the child as no evil; disease was to be made light of;—yet the education of one who obviously possessed peculiarities of character demanding incessant watchfulness was again and again traversed, broken off short, by long separations betwixt mother and child, owing to the valetudinarianism of the former. She professed to despise pomps and vanities, yet is described as outshining the more gaudy dames of Bath, in her "grey satin pelisse, with mother-of-pearl buttons and Angora fur." Altogether, she was a character, as the word is understood,—belonging to no world, though dipping into many,—intimate with Unitarian Priestley and Catholic Berrington of Oscott, while using the plain speech of Quakerism;—and ruling her household with a strength dependent on personality rather than any steady principle. She is described as having been enthusiastically attached to her daughter, and her daughter to her; yet we find that a money quarrel, hanging to a reconsideration of marriage settlements, made a family breach for ever betwixt the young wife and her own people. This is a conclusion too lame and impotent for a life which began with so much care and conscientiousness as the life here described; but the story taken throughout explains, in a certain measure, why it was that one so highly endowed and accomplished as Mrs. Schimmel-Penninck failed to command a high position in any world. To the large body of English readers her name is hardly a name. She was not even mentioned by the *Edinburgh Reviewer* who, some few years ago, treated Port Royal and its worthies as though the same had been a subject for the first time brought within the scope of English sympathies,—yet her eloquent and charming book had preceded the article by something

like a quarter of a century.—Her 'Theory of Beauty and Deformity,' crotchety though it is in its triple classification of all shows and shapes of Art, as being either Sublime, Sentimental, or Porcine,—has in it sufficient originality, research, and sound definition, to be better worth reading than many a treatise which has of later days been issued for or against Raphael. Yet who knows the book, save a very few? The fruits of a strange and exceptional life must also be in some sort strange and exceptional; outlying persons must pay the penalty of being understood and accepted by few. They may—they do—prepare the ground and pioneer the way for persons more formally trained and more timid, yet less scrupulous; but so far as their own lives are concerned, theirs is too often a story of waste and imperfect recognition.

We shall not draw very largely on this book in the matter of extract. Mrs. Schimmel-Penninck's recollections of her childhood, however delicately touched, are too diffuse to yield much. A few pictures, traits, and reminiscences must content us:—the first, an evening scene, may remind readers of the *Athenæum* of a note or two on funeral music published here last autumn:—

"Of the rest of the journey I recollect little, excepting that one evening at sunset, I rather think near the beautiful woods of Lord Dynevor's Park at Llandilo, at the moment when the glowing tints were lighting up the dark trees, solemn and sweet sounds borne on the air reached us: as they drew nearer, there passed a simple funeral procession, preceded by some wind instruments, with which voices sweetly blended. The procession was habited in white, and the coffin covered with a white pall, on which were affixed, in large characters, a few Scripture texts. I remember these amongst them: 'Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.' 'Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.' My mother told me that this was a Moravian funeral, and that the Moravians were persons who love God and love each other as brothers and sisters; that they call dying 'going home,' and give thanks, and sing praises, and rejoice with those who depart."

The child must have been an odd one, to whom the following application of her historical studies occurred:—

"The history of Queen Elizabeth and Mary Stuart above all interested me; and I remember the deep sorrow I felt when Babington's conspiracy on behalf of Mary was discovered. I tried to find out all I could of each of the conspirators, to imagine the various motives by which they were actuated, whether by generosity, compassion, religious zeal, or envy against the English Queen. I began to observe how many different motives may engage persons in an action which, being outwardly one, appears common to them all, and yet how widely asunder their hearts may really be! This led me to think that men see the outward act, but God sees the heart; and that which is of importance for our peace is, that the heart be clean in His sight, clean by uprightness, or cleansed by His forgiveness. This sentiment deeply weighed upon me. The reader may, perhaps, recollect a skull which I had as a plaything when a little child, and which I had since carefully kept amongst my treasures; another happened to be given to me by a surgeon, when explaining the admirable contrivance of the bones of the human head. I now took them both, and, in the day-dream in which I was so often wont to indulge, I constituted these two skulls into those of Anthony Babington, whom I supposed the noble defender of Mary, and John Pelly, the mean betrayer of the whole plot to Elizabeth. I gradually attached a long history to each, beginning with their childhood, and imagining how, little by little, noble daring, and compassion, and self-devotion were nurtured in the one, and meanness, and selfishness, and the full-blown traitor's character were developed in the other. Then I remember asking my grandfather for some old yellow paper, which

I fancied must be paper of Queen Elizabeth's time, and imitating the old English character, I wrote, in two little books, the history I had affixed to each. I then wrapped up the skulls and their histories in leaden paper, which I imagined would last for ages, and put each into a box with some coins I had of Queen Elizabeth's time, taking care, however, to put the good coins into Babington's box, and the spurious or brass ones into that of John Polly. Finally, I wrote upon the outside a solemn warning to all whose characters were not yet formed; and nailing up my boxes, I buried them, by the help of the gardener, in my own little garden, and over them I planted laurels and two oaks. I said to myself, 'The oak lives three hundred years at least, and I shall have been long dead ere these boxes see the light; yet, by their means, a word may be said which may be useful to somebody. Though I am but a child, God may perhaps bless it.'

Here is the picture of a celebrity who made some noise in his day, and is now all but forgotten:—

"It was in the course of that autumn that the celebrated Dr. Darwin first came to see my mother at Barr. * * It was in the latter part of the morning that a carriage drove up to our door, of that description then called a 'Sulky,' because calculated to hold one person only. The carriage was worn, and bespattered with mud. Lashed on the place appropriated to the boot in ordinary carriages was a large pail for the purpose of watering the horses, together with some hay and oats beside it. In the top of the carriage was a skylight, with an awning which could at pleasure be drawn over; this was for the purpose of giving light to the doctor, who wrote most of his works on scraps of paper with a pencil as he travelled. The front of the carriage within was occupied by a receptacle for writing-paper and pencils, likewise for a knife, fork, and spoon; on one side was a pile of books reaching from the floor to nearly the front window of the carriage; on the other, a hamper containing fruit and sweetmeats, cream and sugar, great part of which, however, was demolished during the time the carriage traversed the forty miles which separated Derby from Barr. We all hastened to the parlour-window to see Dr. Darwin, of whom we had heard so much, and whom I was prepared to honour and venerate, in no common degree, as the restorer of my mother's health. What then was my astonishment at beholding him as he slowly got out of the carriage! His figure was vast and massive, his head was almost buried on his shoulders, and he wore a scratch wig, as it was then called, tied up in a little bob-tail behind. A habit of stammering made the closest attention necessary, in order to understand what he said. Meanwhile, amidst all this, the doctor's eye was deeply sagacious, the most so I think of any eye I remember ever to have seen; and I can conceive that no patient consulted Dr. Darwin who, so far as intelligence was concerned, was not inspired with confidence in beholding him: his observation was most keen; he constantly detected disease, from his sagacious observation of symptoms apparently so slight as to be unobserved by other doctors. His horror of fermented liquors, and his belief in the advantages both of eating largely, and eating an almost immeasurable abundance of sweet things, was well known to all his friends; and we had on this occasion, as indeed was the custom whenever he came, a luncheon-table set out with hothouse fruit, and West India sweetmeats, clotted cream, Stilton cheese, &c. When the whole party were settled at table, and I had lost the fear that the Doctor would speak to me, and when, by dint of attention, I could manage to understand what he said, I was astonished at his wit, his anecdotes, and most entertaining conversation. I was particularly amused by anecdotes he told of his patients. There was one lady, the Duchess of D—, whom he had recently been called to attend, who was perishing, he said, under the effect of the white enamel paint which some ladies were then very fond of applying. The doctor at once perceived the cause of her malady, but he knew it would be tender ground to touch upon, since her use of this cosmetic was

kept a profound secret, even from her family; he therefore put on a very grave face, and said she was certainly poisoned, asked if she had had her servants long, and if she had reason to think they owed her ill-will; he then said he should make the strictest examination of all the kitchen utensils, which he did; no satisfaction could be obtained. He then informed her Grace that poison might be absorbed by the skin as well as received by the stomach; had she observed the dyes of her gloves? &c. &c. At last, the Duchess of D— after a great struggle, confessed she used the white lead enamel. It was soon removed. Dr. Darwin's ingenuity furnished her with some vegetable cosmetic in its stead; and her Grace completely recovered."

A word concerning the over-praised 'Botanic Garden':—

"It so happened that Dr. Darwin paid us a visit shortly after the publication of the first volume of his work, and in the midst of its success. He told us that his bookseller—I think the well-known Mr. Johnson—offered him for the copyright, or for the edition (I forget which), a sum at the rate of ten shillings a line. This was said amidst our large family party, our Oscott friends being present. On another occasion, my dear mother said to him, 'I was much pleased, Doctor, with your magnificent description of the Upas; but I was also much surprised, and more especially at the notes containing an elaborate account of it, for I had always considered what we heard of the Upas as a myth.' The Doctor laughingly replied, 'And so do I, my dear Madam. There is not one word of truth in it; but so long as I can get the public to believe me, by dint not only of my own poetry, but also by the notes of my ingenious friend, and as every line puts ten shillings in my pocket, I shall go on *ad infinitum*, as haply the monks of old did with their equally true saintly legends.' One good effect these things had upon me. They made me think that Dr. Darwin did not value truth, and I hence received, from his own lips, a salutary caution, and a standard by which to measure his dicta on other subjects."

There are many acute and sensible remarks on the education of head and heart to be found in the first volume of this book. Mrs. Schimmel-Penninck became a skillful linguist, musician, and artist, as life advanced. She largely interested herself in works of charity and philanthropy; but from having joined that peculiar sect, the Moravians, was less known beyond the sphere of her own world than one so accomplished and vigorous in intellect should have been.—To her literary publications mentioned above may be added, 'Essays on the Temperaments' (the author was a keen phrenologist and physiognomist), on 'Gothic and Grecian Architecture, and other Subjects.' A re-issue of her works was expressly provided for in her will, and is now, we are told, in progress.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Confession: a Tale of the Stars and Clouds. By S. Hancock. (Wertheim & Co.)—'Confession' is intended apparently for a religious novel; its desire is to exhort everybody who is "conscious of sins unwieldy of justice" to make open confession and receive the stripes awarded—those who do so are assured they shall find mercy,—those who contumaciously refuse and persist in keeping their own counsel are threatened that they shall have no comfort of their lives until they give up their secret. The curiosity of Americans has passed into a proverb; but to make the gratification of it a binding obligation and a matter of conscience is a whimsically new use of the confessional. "The Town Crier" has never been regarded as a discreet confidant,—but here we are exhorted to supersede him in his office, and become each our own bellman! It is fortunate that very few are likely to follow the author's injunction, or the moral Rabel that would ensue would be like the "crack o' doom." Let anybody try to realize the confusion of face that would ensue if the world were suddenly to renounce the virtue of reticence, and

if every one were to tell only their own secrets, even if they could keep clear of those of their neighbours! Secrets are like conspiracies, and require more than one to play at them,—and if all the parties were not consenting, what "a wilderness, not of monkeys," but of Kilkenny cats, would the world become! The story is written in a style of super-American fine writing, and is a mixture of religion, mesmerism, and sensuality, revealing a very morbid, enervated, self-indulgent state of feeling amongst the readers with whom it can find favour. Ordinary readers will find it difficult to gather together the threads of the story, which are as multitudinous and complicated as those of a spider's web, and are divided or connected, as the case may be, by innumerable asterisks, which are probably the "stars" mentioned in the title-page. The characters are numerous, and like the scholars of Dr. Faustus—

are made to dance
Out of England into France,
Out of France into Spain,
And to England back again.

—The female inhabitants of the book have, we regret to say, been most of them born under the influence of those erring stars which preside over the breaking of Dian's law; they all go astray, though under extenuating circumstances such as might move Vesta herself to forgiveness. Clarise, the first heroine, "whose silken tresses, pure and cool in golden light as if they had bathed in early morning," falls a victim to mesmerism and rascality; she leaves America, which is a tolerably wide world, to hide her misfortune in London, where she becomes the mother of twins, a distressed needlewoman, and a celebrated authoress. She is punished and pursued and sermonized by the author (who wields the vengeance of Heaven as serenely as though it were a lady's riding-whip), in order to force her to confess to the female members of the congregation "the history of the mystery of her wonderful history!" Zaphie de St. Colmar, a mesmerist lady of quality, "the descendant," as we are told, "of two long lines of earls," residing at Plymouth in a Monte Christo style of luxury, takes a mysterious interest in Clarise, and exercises a supernatural control over her life and destiny. She dwells in a sort of enchanted palace, full of wonderful upholstery, which the author never wearies of describing,—"the carpet of pile so thick that the foot sank into it at every step, of rich deep blue, with strange winding scrolls of black and arabesques in dead shaded gold,"—"wreathed scrolls of ebony and gold" ran along the top of the walls beneath "the fair vaulted ceiling, where white cloud-like forms *à fresco* seemed to float in an azure concave." We fear the lady had scarcely what an upholsterer would call "a safe taste"—crimson velvet, bullion fringe, blue satin, delicate lace, stained windows—"the halls of the Alhambra could not have thrown such subtle delicacy of enchantment on the senses." The lady herself who lived amongst all this magnificence "was low and small of stature, and how queenly in the rich voluptuousness of her delicate mouldings!" She invited Clarise to tea, and we are told the richly-chased silver tea-service, the costly Sevres china, and so forth, all passed unnoted beside the singular repose with which Zaphie St. Colmar presided over the routine of the table. This wonderful lady is a leading member of a religious society, and her first speech to Clarise is—"You wish for an explanation of certain parts of Scripture, Mrs. Ross"; and she proceeds to instruct her, the religion being on a par with the upholstery. Zaphie St. Colmar also has a mystery at the root of her life, which she obstinately conceals; so has Ellen, so has Morieu, so has Cuthbert, so has everybody. There is an arch villain who is the evil genius of everybody's life, the cause of nearly all the woe, and the father of most of the children. But at last everybody confesses, everybody is converted (except those who die, and they are sent to heaven), and after a little natural confusion the right people marry each other. Zaphie "becomes a Countess, but resigns the title to her son!" Everybody has "an appreciative regard" for his neighbour,—they all live happily to the end of their lives, and all, as they declare, because they have "confessed their faults." The whole story of 'Confession' is as errant nonsense as can be put

together and bound in boards; but there is a romantic improbability which will carry a reader to the end. It is not profitable reading for any one, but for young readers we should consider it absolutely pernicious,—and we recommend that it be kept out of their way, like laudanum or other poison.

The Scholar and the Trooper; or, Oxford during the Great Rebellion. By the Rev. W. E. Heygate, M.A. (J. H. & J. Parker.)—This is a heavy but not uninteresting book. The story moves slowly, as though the march of the events themselves had been impeded by the heavy riding-boots of the period; but the author seems to have considered the story only as a means of conveying to the reader what he deems the right and wholesome view of that period of our history. All his sympathies are on the Royalist side, and the allowance of either grace or goodness is dealt with scanty measure to those of the opposite side—they are all spoken of and treated as rebels, without any benefit of extenuating circumstances. An author has of course the prerogative of electing the condition in life and the principles which shall animate his favourite and most important characters; but then such stories are not to be received as historical illustrations. Mr. Heygate does not deal in vivid scene-painting or portraiture of character, and while those of his own political persuasion may find in it "things pleasant and things profitable," as John Bunyan has it, it will not bring over readers of an opposite persuasion. The best part of the book consists in the careful statistical details about Oxford, both Town and University, at the period; there is a great deal of local information about the battles, skirmishes and exploits that took place in the neighbourhood during the Civil War, given with care and copiousness. Most of the leading members of the University at the time are introduced and pass before the reader. The book has a solidity of interest which is quite independent of the story which, as we said, Mr. Heygate seems to have written in condescension to the weakness of his readers rather than from any desire to take his stand as a writer of fiction.

A Sportsman's Stories—[Récits, &c.] By Ivan Tourgueneff. Translated by H. Delaveau. Illustrated by Godefroy Durand. (Paris, Dentu.)—Though the matter of this book be not new to English or French readers, the publication claims a word of recognition because of its preface. In this we are apprised (M. Tourgueneff confirming the statement) that the *Mémoires d'un Seigneur Russe*, put forward some years ago by M. Charrière, and his version of these Stories, are in no respect fair or faithful translations. Not only does M. Tourgueneff assure us that his meaning has been perpetually misunderstood, owing to M. Charrière's ignorance of Russian;—but he calls attention, with natural displeasure, to the numerous additions and interpolations in false taste which disfigure the former paraphrase. M. Delaveau, it may be assumed, represents far more fairly the melancholy and interesting tales of the distinguished Russian author.—Melancholy they must be by necessity, if not by the mood of their writer; being mainly illustrations of serfdom. The serfdom of Russia, moreover, has not that merry side which can be exhibited in the case of southern slavery, where sensuality, ignorance, and a mercurial temperament may combine so as to present one of those pictures of gaiety by contemplating which honest persons, even, willing to escape from pain and afraid to face a dilemma, have deluded themselves into fancying that human property in human flesh and blood was a piece of capital good fortune for the chattel. Thus, we can hardly call M. Tourgueneff's stories light reading. They are eminently saddening; and the more so because they are told with as much simplicity as finish. Less fierce and repulsive than the national tales of Gogol, they are little less powerful in the impression which they produce, and few readers will wonder that their writer, during the late reign, was long an object of Imperial mistrust and displeasure.—With them, we may announce what appears to be a more recent book—a second series of *Scenes of Russian Life—[Scènes, &c.]* (Hachette

& Co.), which has been rendered into French by M. Tourgueneff's former collaborator—M. Viardot.

The Microscope: its Revelations and Applications in Science and Art. By John Ferguson. (Constable.)—There are two sorts of scientific books, one written by men who read and observe, the other written by men who read only. The value of these books is very different. The latter may sometimes present useful epitomes of facts, or eloquent descriptions of natural objects, but, unfortunately, the authors are always liable to error. The facts they write about have never existed for them but in imagination, and when they venture beyond the words themselves of the authors they read, they are liable to err. Now this we believe to be the case with Mr. Ferguson's book on the microscope. He has read, at least, Dr. Carpenter's work on that subject, and may have looked into some other books, but we very much question whether he ever looked into a microscope. What does he mean by talking of the Rotiferæ or Wheel-Animalcules "having in the anterior part of their bodies little organs like wheels, and which, like wheels, continually move upon their own axis. This appearance is as extraordinary as if the head of a man were seen to be continually whirling round on the axis of his neck"? Surely he ought to know that the rotary motion is an illusion altogether, and that the wheel-like action is produced by the movement of cilia upon a fixed organ. The study of a catherine-wheel on a firework-night would put him on the right scent with regard to the movement he describes. Again, he speaks of the power possessed by Desmidiæ and Diatoms of "withdrawing silex from the water in which they exist," and says that "the great Master Builder rears and upholds the fabric of the material universe" "by the countless agents of worlds of Desmidiæ and Diatomaceæ"; and yet the real fact is, that the Desmidiæ have no silex in their skeleton at all, and when they die leave no trace of their existence. In many parts of his book Mr. Ferguson writes eloquently and religiously on the subject of discoveries by the microscope, and his remarks might be regarded as edifying by an uninstructed audience, if proceeding from the pulpit, but their publication is something more than uncalled for—it is injurious to the interests of science.

The New York Pulpit in the Revival of 1858. (New York, Blakeman & Co.; London, Trübner & Co.)—This is a memorial volume of twenty-five sermons, preached by eminent Presbyterian and Baptist ministers to the crowds assembled at New York during what was called "The Great Revival." The preface states what the sermons themselves indicate, that they do not "exhibit the learning or the ability of the preacher," but are rather specimens of a particular manner, "with an earnest fraught expression of heart and mind." The first sermon, to our mind, is the best, and its text striking and characteristic. From the text, "I will increase them with men like a flock," the preacher remarks, "At the three great festivals, Jerusalem was crowded both with animals and men," and laments, as one of the present delinquencies of the United States, that "by unavoidable mixtures and alliances, parents have learned a new dialect, and the children speak half in the speech of Ashdod."

The Poor Incumbent: a Tale. By Mrs. Alfred Gatty. (Bell & Daldy.)—We are indebted to one of the Brothers Mayhew for the model laity; Mrs. Gatty paints for us the model clergy. Her picture of the Poor Incumbent, of his overtaken, underpaid, and unrecognized services, is worked up in a masterly manner, the struggling life of the working brethren is divested of false colour; and the abiding shadow of their trial and suffering is cast on the Church system. The companion picture to the earnest young clergyman is that of a model bishop, who takes St. Paul for his guide, and "Bear ye one another's burdens" for his motto. Of such a one, it needs scarcely be remarked, that he increases the stipends of his clergy, and resolves to devote himself to a conscientious supervision of his flock,—to be in truth a father unto them. The responsibilities, however, of the overgrown bishopric are insurmountable, and after having vainly appealed for a division of the See,

he, fairly worn out with his efforts, quietly and joyfully gives up the ghost. We need only add, that the little volume is worthy of perusal, from its truthful and unexaggerative spirit.

My Three Aunts; or, Louisa. By the Author of 'Long, Long Ago.' (Mozley.)—My Three Aunts are sad personages to read of; so miserable, indeed, that we cannot conceive the sin that would not be too severely punished by a forced reading of nearly two hundred pages of small type devoted to their tempers, tyrannies, and trumperies.

What is a Boy? and what to do with him! By Thomas Morell Blackie. (Simpkin & Co.)—Mr. Blackie's brochure is an appeal to all instructors of youth to consult the bent of a boy's mind in imparting instruction, to abstain from the frequent use of the rod, to associate with his pupils in their hours of recreation, to lend his countenance to their sports and diversions,—in fact, to become unto them what Mr. Rarey is to the horse.

Miss Anna M. N. Young, in *Poems* (Glasgow, Murray & Son) writes gently and sweetly, although sometimes with a petulant spite against "the world," especially that department of it called Fashionable. She dedicates her lyrics to the gold-handed autumn, to the lilies, the flowers of virgin light, to full-throated birds, to the beams of the watery moon, and to other beauties of the earth, as well as to sentiments of human love and divine devotion. Yearning and imitation, resulting in culture and facility, are obvious in these elegant and well-intentioned rhymes.—So far as intention is concerned, excellence may be attributed to *The Song of the Cat: a Legend of the Chancery Court. In Three Fits; with Notes and Illustrations collected for the Rolls Office.* Edited by a Master out of Chancery. (Simpkin, Marshall & Co.)—It professes to be a plea for social reforms, and the author seems in earnest. Very much in earnest, however, must that reader be who studies 'The Song of the Cat' so intently as to consult the notes in elucidation of the author's meaning. If allured by the title, he will find in the poem neither better nor worse than this satire on the practice of quoting dead languages in oratory supposed to be living. The cat is in court, wondering—

That in the Convocation, with great unction,
Latin adorned the learned clergy's function,—
The Puseyite for Ciceronian noted;
The Fustyle for Ciceronian noted;
Low Latin by the Low-Church being quoted;
And that the pundits in the House of Lords,
Like Romans, dare by using Roman words,
Prompt to recall John Bowring to repentance,
And take Canton by firing off a sentence:—"Immane nefas," phrase to rive asunder
And scatter sepoy by its classic thunder,—
And "egregius irritant animos," arouse
Our souls "indaster," to fulfil their vows;—
While "felix prole circum," onward dare,
Each man a god, his country's night to bear;—
Nor had Tam learned, how rough, as nutmeg graters,
Latin becomes, when used by fierce debaters;
Nor that fledged striplings, in their young orations,
By quoting Horace galvanised the nations,
Sending a shock by telegraphic wire
That made the young ones laugh and men of old admire.
The Latin was repeated, clear and slow;—
"My Lord! the writ, Qui tam pro domino."

—Another satirist, fast and furious, is one who signs himself John Bull, and who writes *Humbug attacked in Church, Law, Physic, Army, and Navy* (Mountcastle), a tirade without sequence or perspicuity. It is a gritty mixture of exaggeration and platitudes.

An Earnest Exhortation to Christian Unity (Part-ridge & Co.) is the title of a bulky volume "affectionately addressed to the members of every religious community and denomination, be they Hebrew, Christian, or Infidel," with an Appendix containing Bishop Beveridge's 'Soliloquy on the Immortality of the Soul,' and the 'Divinity of the Christian Religion,' by "The Chief of Sinners."—Messrs. Holyoake have published *The Authorized Version of the Old Testament Scriptures, Revised, Corrected, and Reformed*, in one moderate-sized volume somewhat densely printed in double columns, the text being boldly transposed and re-arranged, with "reformatory."—Less ambitious and more fugitive publications are:—*A Brief Inquiry into the Law of England with Respect to Private Confession*, by Benjamin Shaw, M.A. (Livingtons).—*The Sabbath Question*, by Henry Fulton (Chapman), a second edition, enlarged,—*Preaching, Prosing, and*

Puseyism, with other Peas of the Pod, by Feltham Burghley (Hope), written with much effort and affection,—and *The Religious Difficulty in National Education*, by Benjamin Templar, Master of the Model Secular School, Manchester (Simpkin & Co.).—Recent circumstances have elicited a large and minute *Report of the Proceedings at a Visitation holden in Trinity College, Dublin, on May 24th and 25th, and June 1st and 3rd, 1858, before the Vice-Chancellor of the University and the Archbishop of Dublin*, with an Appendix, by John Francis Waller, LL.D. (Hodges, Smith & Co.).—*The Abuse of Criticism and Proposed Literary Tribunal* (Groombridge & Sons) is an appeal against a literary review by a writer who considers himself to have been maltreated.—Mr. Peter Hatley Waddell, in *The Baptism of Letters; or, the Alphabet before the Bible* (Chapman), a pulpit oration, develops his peculiar theory with ingenious vehemence.—*A Record of the Patriarchal Age; or, the Proverbs of Aphobis*, by the Rev. D. I. Heath, M.A. (Longman & Co.) professes to be the first full translation of a papyrus, "far the hardest," says Mr. Heath, "that has hitherto yielded to my analysis." It is an interesting fragment.—Mr. Henry Mackenzie, in *The Parochial System: its Development and Results* (Skeffington), applies a pulpit discourse to a practical end.—We may add a mention of a little, social, devotional story, neatly written, *Emily in her New Place*, by the Author of 'Stories and Lessons on the Catechism,' edited by the Rev. W. Jackson, M.A. (Mozley).

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FREEDOM OF THE PRESS.

On Thursday, Mr. Justice Willes and an English jury, at Guildford, decided a cause which affects in a remarkable manner, the very intricate and mysterious laws which govern, what is called the Freedom of the Press. The cause more immediately concerns the *Athenæum* and its readers, but the results of the trial concern the whole British Press. The facts were these.—On the 8th of May a report appeared in our columns of the proceedings of the British Archaeological Association at one of its ordinary meetings—and in this report the following words:—

"The remainder of the evening was occupied in the reading and discussion of 'An Account drawn up by Mr. Cumming on the Recent Forgeries in Lead.' These are figures reported to have been obtained from the Thames, and called Pilgrims' signs. They are being offered, not only in London, but throughout the country, and antiquaries should be upon their guard in the purchase of them. Mr. Cumming had inspected no less than 800; Mr. Planché had seen a great number, but the aggregate is stated to be not less than 12,000. The whole are proved to be of recent fabrication, though assuming to belong to the fourteenth century. Bishops are equipped with mitres of three distinct fashions, forms known to have been used from the twelfth century to later time. The military figures are as absurd as the ecclesiastical. They appear to have been made in chalk moulds, the graving tools being nails and penknives. They have been steeped in a strong acid and smeared over with Thames mud. It is to be lamented that there are no legal means of punishing so gross an attempt at deception and extortion."

To these words, which were officially forwarded to us for publication by the acting Secretaries of the Association, a Mr. Eastwood took exception, asserting that they applied to him, and were injurious to his character and interests. Up to the moment when his complaint reached the *Athenæum* Office, we had never heard Mr. Eastwood's name, and were entirely unaware of his existence. We could have had no thought of injuring a person perfectly unknown to us, and our columns were open to Mr. Eastwood had he chosen to defend himself against what he conceived to be an attack on the part of the Archaeological Association. But he chose another course. By implication he disputed the right of the press to report the public proceedings of a scientific body. An action at law was commenced in his name—not against the learned gentleman whose words were the ground of complaint, or against the learned body for which he was a reporter—but against the Proprietors of the *Athenæum*. The Press was attacked. In the interest of literature we felt bound to defend our position. If such reports could not be printed without liability to action at law on the part of any person who might fancy himself hurt, there would be an end, not merely of criticism and controversy, but of reporting itself. The trial has not merely established our right and freed us from blame, but has given to the man of letters, and indeed to every one who habitually or incidentally takes part in the discussion of public affairs, a firmer hold of his pen. Mr. Justice Willes observed that it had been laid down by one of the sages of the law that what a man said honestly and *bona fide*, in the course of a public discussion in matters concerning the public interest, no matter even if he spoke rashly, and what he said was not true, still, any statement made under such circumstances would not be a libel. It had also been equally clearly laid down, said this eminent Judge, that before any plaintiff could ask redress for a libel he must show distinctly that the libel complained of applied to him, and to no other person. "It would be a new doctrine indeed if it were to be held that any person who said that all lawyers were rogues might be sued by every individual lawyer in the kingdom." Who will not read these observations on the legitimate action of the Press with pleasure? They are very much to the point, and were very much wanted. They define with a breadth and a clearness hitherto unattained the limits within which discussion is really free; and we feel less proud at having vindicated our own particular right than at having been the means of drawing from the Bench an exposition so liberal and a decision so conclusive as to the liberty of the English Press.

An account of the trial, which took place at Guildford, we borrow from the law report of the *Times*.

This was an action of libel. The plaintiff is a dealer in antiquities, and the defendants are the proprietors of the *Athenæum* newspaper, and the action was brought to recover damages for a libel published in that paper on the 8th of May last. The defendants pleaded that the statement which was alleged to be a libel was true.—Mr. Edwin James, Q.C., and Mr. Hawkins were for the plaintiff; Mr. Montagu Chambers, Q.C., and Mr. Lush, Q.C., appeared for the defendants.

Mr. James, in opening the case, said, that the plaintiff had for more than twenty years carried on the business of a dealer in curiosities and antiquities, and he brought the present action with a view to vindicate his character from a very serious imputation that had been cast upon it by an article which appeared in the defendants' journal, and which charged him with defrauding the public by selling counterfeit antiquities. The learned counsel then stated that in the course of last year a large number of ancient relics were discovered in an excavation at Shadwell, and these relics, a great portion of which turned out to be what were known among antiquaries as "pilgrims' signs," he should show without a doubt were perfectly genuine, and came into the possession of the plaintiff as such, and he paid for them a considerable sum of money. The article that was the subject of the present action appeared in the *Athenæum* of the 8th of May, in the present year, and it purported to be a report of what took place at one of the meetings of the British Archaeological Association, and it represented that the proceedings concluded by Mr. Cumming reading a paper on the subject of the 'Recent Forgeries in Lead'; and in that paper he stated that certain leaden articles, which were represented to be pilgrims' signs, and to have been discovered in the course of an excavation upon the banks of the Thames, for the purpose of making a new dock, were forgeries, and that Mr. Cumming had himself examined 800 of them; that Mr. Planché had also seen a great many, and that the number of these forged articles in the aggregate was supposed to be 12,000. The paper went on to state that these articles were entirely counterfeit, and that the metal of which they were composed appeared to have been rubbed with some strong acid to give it the appearance of age, and that they had then been smeared with river-mud. The paper concluded by expressing a regret that the law would not punish parties who were guilty of such a disgraceful fraud. The learned counsel said there could be no doubt that this article referred to the plaintiff, although his name was not mentioned, as he was the only person in possession of such articles, and who had purchased them from the parties who had actually found them at the place that had been mentioned. He should call those persons to show that these relics of antiquity actually were found in the manner stated, and he should also call several eminent antiquaries, who would state to the jury their opinion that they were genuine relics, and that there was consequently no foundation for the allegation that they were fraudulent imitations got up for the purpose of deceiving and imposing upon the public. He then said that the plaintiff, in bringing the present action, only sought to clear his character, and he did not ask for vindictive damages, but by the verdict of the jury to free himself from the serious charge that had been made against him.

Mr. George Eastwood, the plaintiff, was then examined.—He deposed that he had carried on the business of a dealer in curiosities and antiquities between twenty and twenty-five years, and he believed he was one of the best judges of such things in the United Kingdom. In June 1857 a Mr. Edwards, whom he knew as a dealer in antiquities, called upon him and showed him forty articles made of lead, which comprised different subjects, and were known among antiquaries as pilgrims' signs. He examined them, and made up his mind immediately that they were genuine articles of antiquity, and he purchased them, and afterwards he purchased other articles of the same kind of him, in number amounting to 1,100. He was told that they had been found by the men who were employed in excavating for the basin of the new London Dock, and he went to the spot and

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examined the soil. He afterwards purchased a number of the same description of articles from two young men named Smith and Eaton, who he understood were the parties that had found them originally and sold them to Edwards. He paid Edwards 296*l.* for those he purchased of him, and he gave the young men 50*l.* for the portion they sold him. A small quantity of the "signs" were afterwards sold to Mr. Franks for the British Museum, and a gentleman named Wigan also purchased a great many of them. He then explained that pilgrims' signs was a term that had only recently been made use of among antiquaries, and that they were supposed to be articles worn by the monks in the religious processions of the olden time, and also when they made a pilgrimage to the shrine of any particular saint. The whole of the articles were made of lead, and in addition to those which he said would come under the designation of pilgrims' signs there were other antiquities, such as belts, dagger-sheaths, the bosses of shields, and also reliquaries, the whole of which he said he had no doubt were genuine antiquities, and had really been found at the place mentioned.

In answer to questions put by Mr. Chambers, in cross-examination, the plaintiff said that at the time this article appeared he was the only person who had so large a number as 800 "pilgrims' signs" in his possession; but he said that at one time he had so many as 1,100.

A box, containing a large number of the alleged valuable articles of antiquity, had been placed upon the table, and a good deal of amusement was created by the extraordinary character of some of those that were produced. There were warriors and women fashioned out in lead in the most rude manner, and in all sorts of attitudes; one of them, as the learned Judge observed, looking very much like "Zamuel." One of the things that was produced appeared sorely to puzzle every one. It had something resembling the appearance of a chimney-pot, about eight inches long; but no one seemed to be able to give the least guess what its original object possibly could have been, and Mr. James suggested that possibly it might have been the model of some ancient extinguisher.

In answer to further questions, the plaintiff said that he had heard of such articles as "crepundia," or children's toys, having been found on the banks of the river; but these, he said, were totally different things, and he believed them to be genuine ancient pilgrims' signs.

Mr. W. Edwards, the person from whom the plaintiff had purchased the articles in question, was then examined, and he stated that he had been a dealer in antiquities for twenty years, and he considered he was well acquainted with such matters. He purchased the whole of those that had been produced of his boys, named Bill and Charley, of whom he had been in the habit of purchasing such things. "Bill," he said, was in attendance to give evidence, but "Charley" had got married, and his wife would not let him come. (A laugh.) He was aware that these young men were in the habit of being about the river, and that they also purchased things that were found by excavators in the soil. They brought these articles to him eight and ten at a time, from June 1857 to June 1858, and he paid them altogether 200*l.*

In cross-examination this witness said that he might have sold old coins to navigators, but he did not know what they did with them, and he had not the least idea that they ever buried them in order that they might afterwards dig them up and sell them as antiquities. He should not have been such a fool as to buy his own coins again if they had been brought to him. He paid Billy and Charley for the articles as they brought them to him. He had had dealings with "Billy" in the same way for thirteen or fourteen years, but he had not dealt with Charley quite so long. (A laugh.) He was unable to form any opinion as to what particularage these pilgrims' signs belonged, he left that to the Archeological Society to decide. (Laughter.)

William Smith, a rough-looking young man, who described himself as a "shore-raker," was then examined. He said that he and "Charley" were in the habit of seeking for articles such as those

that had been produced, and selling them to the curiosity dealers. He then said that the first time he found any of the articles in question was in June 1857, and he did not find any after March 1858. They were found in the excavation for the new dock at Shadwell, and very near the place where the swingbridge now was. They found about 2,000 altogether. Mr. Edwards sometimes paid him as much as 2*l.* in a day, and he received 400*l.* from him altogether during the year. They used to buy the articles as the navigators discovered them, and used sometimes to give them a shilling and a pot of beer for them.

In cross-examination this witness said that no strangers were allowed to go into the docks or about the works, and the navvies were not permitted to take anything out, not even any old bones they might find; but still, he said, he managed to get access to the place and to purchase all these articles. He also said that he found a great many of them himself by raking over the earth after it was dug out, and he managed to get a rake into the dock for this purpose.

Mr. C. Roach Smith, a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, was then examined, and he stated his belief that the articles in question were genuine relics of antiquity, and that a great many of them came under the designation of pilgrims' signs, but he attributed them to a later date than the 16th century. It was difficult to say what actual use was originally made of such articles, because they were a new class altogether, but they were all evidently connected with some religious proceedings, and he had no doubt that when the subject came to be considered antiquaries would be able to assign some origin to them. He added that he firmly believed them to be genuine, but at present he really could not say what they were. When he read the article in the *Athenæum* he had no doubt that it referred to the plaintiff and to the "pilgrims' signs" that were in his possession.

Cross-examined.—The "pilgrims' signs" with which he was acquainted, and to which he had first given that designation, were very different to the things now produced. A good many of these articles were certainly inconsistent with each other, and evidently related to different ages.

The Rev. Thomas Hugo, also a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, and who has written several works upon the subject of antiquarian researches, was the next witness, and he gave similar evidence to that of Mr. Smith. He also expressed his opinion that the articles in question were undoubtedly genuine relics. He said he believed they belonged to the fifteenth or the beginning of the sixteenth century, but he could not give any other description of them than that they appeared to be "lead objects."

Cross-examined.—He was unable to give any reason in coming to the conclusion that these things dated from the fifteenth or sixteenth century. All he could say was the ladies' reason, he thought so because he did think so. (A laugh.) He was then asked to look at some of the articles, and to state whether he did not think that the sharpness of their edges and their fresh appearance did not indicate that they could not have been in the ground for three centuries; but he replied that he was of opinion that they did not, and he said he believed it was possible for a piece of metal to be in the ground for many centuries, and still present sharp, clear edges. He also said that on expressing the opinion that these were genuine ancient relics he had no facts to ground his opinion upon, but merely judged from the general appearance of the articles.

Some other evidence of a similar kind was then given, and this closed the case for the plaintiff.

Mr. Chambers then submitted to his Lordship that there was no case to go to the jury. He contended, in the first place, that the evidence failed to support the case of the plaintiff as laid in the declaration, and also that, even supposing the article in question to be a libel, which however he submitted it clearly was not, there was not a tittle of evidence to show that it applied to the plaintiff, and that, consequently, there was nothing to go to the jury.

Mr. James, in reply, urged a good many ingenious arguments to show that at all events the

opinion of the jury ought to be taken. The plaintiff was really charged with a very serious offence, and he was desirous to clear his character.

Mr. Justice Willes, after a brief consideration, said he was of opinion that the article complained of was not a libel in the eye of the law. It had been laid down by one of the sages of the law that what a man said honestly and *bona fide* in the course of a public discussion on matters concerning the public interest, no matter even if he spoke rashly, and what he said was not true, still any statement made under such circumstances would not be a libel. It had also been equally clearly laid down that before any plaintiff could ask redress for a libel he must show distinctly that the libel complained of applied to him, and to no other person. It would be a new doctrine, indeed, if it were to be held that any person who said that all lawyers were rogues might be sued by every individual lawyer in the kingdom; and it appeared to him that the article now complained of seemed to apply to the particular trade of dealing in antiquities rather than to the plaintiff personally. It appeared to him, therefore, that the plaintiff must be non-suited.

Mr. James suggested that his learned friend, Mr. Chambers, ought to withdraw the plea which alleged that the plaintiff had been guilty of fraud in the transaction.

Mr. Chambers said it was never intended to impute any fraudulent intention to the plaintiff, and he was not instructed to make such a suggestion. He had bought the articles, no doubt, under the impression that they were genuine.

The jury then returned a verdict for the defendants.

HOLIDAYS ABROAD.

THE Session is over—where shall we take our rest? No more Parliament, no more Opera, no more Crystal Palace, no more Star and Garter. A truce to Temple staircases—to Guildhall feasts—to Belgravian staircases—to hourly teasing telegraphs. Adieu all wearisome and darling pleasures. All dear flirtations ending in *ennui*—all musical breakfasts lasting till sundown—flower-shows, races, speeches, and club dinners, adieu! Regent Street is empty; the club-door is barred by painters and cleaners; the square blinds are down. That brilliant circle, of which you Lesbia, and you Harry, were the grace, the fascination and the life, is broken up,—as spasmodic poets would say, a star shivered, and the shining fragments scattered through space! Whither shall we wend? Englishmen delight in travel. And we are English. To climb Alps, to thread Pyrenees, to steam over lakes, to crush through forests, is an enjoyment to us like an endless bath to a Turk, opium dreams to a Syrian, dinners and drawing-rooms to a Gaul, beer and waltzes to a Bavarian, splendid rogueries to a Greek. The genius that makes some of our countrymen colonists drives us about the world in quest of changes, sceneries, sensations and adventures. Happily the choice of scene is vast, and enlarges year by year. Before us lies a Map of Europe, newly edited by Mr. Keith Johnstone and published by Mr. Stanford of Charing Cross—a work of science as to drawing and correctness, a work of Art as to clearness and beauty—and by the help of a little guide-book published by the South-Eastern Railway Company, we may find a way to enjoy ourselves for a month or six weeks in any part of Europe.

Let us first see what is announced in the way of excursion. Touring in grand style is pleasant; as posting four-in-hand was pleasant in the good old days when knights of the shire could afford only one trip to London in a year; but if the grandson of the said knight of the shire likes to see Naples or Athens at the cost of Sir Roger's horses on the great north road, whose dignity is at stake, save his own? Here is something attractive. A month's tour for a trifle under seven pounds, all the way in first-class carriages and on the quarter-decks of steamers. Lesbia delights in Paris and adores the Rhine—here then is the very trip for her. She can visit, during her month, Namur, Paris, Liège, Aix-la-Chapelle, Pepinster, Spa, Cologne, Emmerich, Arnhem, Utrecht, Amsterdam, Haarlem,

Leyden, La Haye, Rotterdam, Dordrecht, Antwerp and Brussels. Surely a good route, along a region positively alive with romance, art, beauty and tradition. Suppose Lesbia prefers Switzerland. Tickets are now issued in London direct to Bâle, and available for seven days of journey. The distance may be done—including bed and breakfast in Paris—in thirty-seven hours. You breakfast in London to-day, sleep in Paris, and dine (a little late) next day in Switzerland. At Bâle you have your choice of roads through the alps and lakes; to Zurich by rail, and thence by steamer to Horgen (whence an omnibus carries you over the mountains to Zug, a steamer to Immensee, and another omnibus past Tell's Chapel to one of the heads of Lake Lucerne), and higher up Zurich's fair waters towards Wallenstadt and the Splügen Pass—now, take it all in all, the most convenient pass for the descent on Milan and Bergamo; or you may push by rail direct from Bâle to Lucerne or Solothurn or Berne, fares anywhere a trifle, and transit done in no time. These changes make Switzerland seem as small as it is. The line is now complete from Zurich to Coire at the foot of the great Splügen Pass. The distance is seven hours—the fare about 10s. Four-and-twenty hours more bring you to Como, two hours more to Milan. Or you may enter Switzerland at Geneva instead of Bâle—the line being now complete from Boulogne to Lake Lemane; the time of transit from Paris to Geneva being reduced to fifteen hours, and the fares by second class to about two pounds English. Sixty shillings, therefore, will carry you by way of Dieppe from London to Geneva, landing you at the Hôtel des Bergues on the evening of the second day. From this point Switzerland lies all before you where to choose—on one side Lausanne and the northern roads to Freiburg, Berne and Lucerne, with the Righi, the lakes of Zug and Zurich, and the two banks of the Rhine for return, occupying a delightful week if the tourist chooses to sleep at Lausanne, Freiburg, Berne, Lucerne, Zurich and Bâle, pulling up for his seventh bed at Freiburg in the Breisgau, a town better worth his time than Stuttgart or Carlsruhe; on the other the Savoy valleys, leading to Chamounix and the foot of Mont Blanc, or to Martigny, the Simplon, and the Italian waters of Arosa and Bellinzona,—each a journey full of interest, and appealing to the imagination for superiority, as one prefers glaciers to vineyards or vineyards to glaciers. Arosa, the chief Sardinian town on Lago Maggiore, is reached without much fatigue from Geneva by travellers sleeping at Domo d'Ossola on the second night. It is pleasant to wake in a morning and feel that Italy lies in the valley at your feet. It is pretty to see the white water leaping down the rocky road, and to reflect that in a few hours it will rush past the Borromean Isles and eventually sweep down the Po to the Lagoons.—Mem. Unless your life is well insured, and your death would be advantageous to your friends, avoid sleeping at Martigny. Even while you wait there in the dead night, the three or four hours required by your Swiss drivers for changing horses, wrap a veil round Lesbia's mouth, walk about and—smoke!

A more rapid, if not more agreeable, way into Italy is over Mont Cenis. By the new Victor-Emmanuel line the distance from Lyons to Turin (or from Geneva to Turin) is reduced to four-and-twenty hours. The fare from Paris to Turin is under seventy shillings. At Turin the pleasure-seeker has a wondrous choice of object,—Genoa within six hours, in one direction—including Alessandria and Marengo on the line—(Genoa, whence one may sail for Leghorn, Naples, Malta, and generally, according to one's fancy, into universal space),—Arona in another, with Novara by the way, and Lago Maggiore at the term; with the great Lombardy line commencing a few miles from Novara,—taking Milan, Brescia, Lago di Garda, Verona, and learned Padua on the way to Venice. By this road a rapid traveller may reach Venice, without any great fatigue, on the fifth day from London, sleeping at Paris, Geneva, and Turin. Perhaps a more striking entrance into Venice is by sea from Trieste, with paring views of the Illyrian Alps and magnificent

vistas of the islands of the Lagoon,—a journey which may now be made in about the same period of time over the Belgian and German lines, through Dresden, Prague, and Vienna, and by the Austrian Lloyd's steamers, though at a somewhat increased charge. Allow, say, a couple of guineas extra for the pleasure of seeing the Alpen Horn at Glognitz and the caves of Adelsberg, instead of the pass of Mont Cenis and the Cathedral at Milan. London to Venice may be done, second class, by way of Turin, for about six pounds, English money. Perhaps, after all, we may take our holiday in less civilized parts. What says Lesbia to the Guadalquivir and the Sierra Nevada?

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Florence, July 29.

CERTAIN reports just now current in the liberal circles of Florence form a painful postscript to the account I so lately sent to the *Athenæum* of the triumphant reception given to the illustrious veteran poet, Niccolini, at the "Teatro Nuovo," on the occasion of the representation of his 'Medea.' A number of ill-omened hints have been industriously whispered about during the last few years, by two or three of those placed by family circumstances around the poet. These hints, illustrated by good store of dismal head-shaking and significant lifting up of hands, implied the lamentable and complete breakdown of his noble intellect, and his total incapacity for literary exertion, nay, even for any social intercourse whatever. But these stories have been generally valued at their worth in Florence.

Meanwhile, the *soi-disant* friends and friends' friends, who scented trouble in the closing volumes of 'The History of the House of Sabaia,' on which Niccolini has been so long engaged, were thrown into a very agree-fit of prophetic terror, it is reported, by the expected enormities of his 'Collana,' or necklace of political sonnets,—a work begun at the close of 1848, to which every day is said to have added a link, till the entire collection would have formed a very notably tough and knotty halter for the throat of political misrule.

I say *would have formed*, because, if rumour is to be trusted, the 'Collana' exists no longer; at least, in a collective shape; though, probably enough, the fear of such a catastrophe "creeps out" prematurely in the report of its fulfilment.

Thus much, however, seems to be tolerably certain; that the whole retrograde and Jesuit party—sworn enemies, of course, to the Author of the 'Arnaldo'—are busily surrounding his declining days with their mildest expostulations and tenderest persuasions, in order to obtain from him a recantation of his eighty years' consistent political creed, and to urge him to a filial return to the closest embrace of *Santa Madre Chiesa*.

The poet's *really* failing health and great age prick on these laudable efforts to a fever heat of activity, which too surely threatens the existence of a valuable mass of unpublished MSS., the result of his still-enduring intellectual labours.

Under these circumstances, the Florentine friends of the liberal cause are naturally and laudably anxious to forewarn (and so forearm) the literary world of what is but too likely to happen. Thus, whenever the time shall come—(be it yet far off!)—when the name of Niccolini shall be recorded in the obituary of Italy's great, true, and earnest men, those who now honour and admire him on either side of the Alps will be the less ready to accept some wondrous tale of his politico-religious conversion in *articulo mortis*, such as may be expected some day to adorn the columns of such journals as the *Gioglio* and the *Civiltà Cattolica*.

Th. T.

Naples, July 31.

A great man has ceased to live, and if the Government of Naples could not appreciate a man whom Europe knows and honours, still let him not pass away in silence. Carlo Troya died on Wednesday the 28th inst., after long and painful suffering, cheered by the hope which had comforted his long and chequered life. "Firm in his resolution, never discouraged," says a friend, "he waited for death without desiring or fearing it. He had arrived at his 74th year. Those who were not

acquainted with the grandeur of his intellect would have said on conversing with him that he was one of the best and the most amiable of men. Those who really knew how great a man he was, and how many works he has left incomplete, will say that his death is a real misfortune, which not only Italy, but Europe will lament. Carlo Troya is known principally by his 'History of the Middle Ages.' He was, however, a copious writer. Nor was he less distinguished as a politician, and Neapolitans will not forget his name as associated with Poerio and other distinguished and unfortunate men in their attempts to establish the Constitution of 1848. It was a crime which, though sanctioned by royalty, royalty could never pardon; and Carlo Troya has passed the interval between that time and this in literary engagements. The precautions taken at the funeral show what the Government of Naples most dread—Science, Literature, Virtue. Persons were prohibited from approaching the house where the body lay, and guards were placed to see the order carried out. Friars, monks, one servant, and the carriage of his brother, the President of the Ministers, followed the deceased, and four inspectors of police with their respective patrol, surrounded the body. At the church it was received by the Marchese Luca Grimaldi, ex-President of Ministers, Caselli, Attorney-General of the Criminal Court, and a commissary of police with thirty policemen. Ten learned bodies of which Troya was a member wished to accompany the deceased, but it was prohibited by the police. The funeral ceremony over, the people were dismissed, no one being permitted to be present at the interment, and he who had instructed and delighted many, and was held in honour by all Italy, was lowered into the grave without one word of eulogium. Had he been a man who had thriven by flattery and corruption he would have been honoured with almost royal obsequies. But it is his truest praise that, in Naples, policemen accompanied him to the grave, and that not a word was said.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

OUR first article of last week drew attention once more to the great series of works illustrative of the history of England in progress of publication by order of the Government. Eight volumes are now out. Several others are in the press and may be shortly expected. By the courtesy of the Master of the Rolls we are able to announce the following as in the press:—'Chronicon Monasterii de Abington,' Vol. II., edited by the Rev. J. Stevenson.—'The Represser of over much Blaming of the Clergy,' by Reginald Pecock, sometime Bishop of Chichester, edited by C. Babington.—'Ricardi de Cirencestria Speculum Historiale de Gestis Regum Anglie (A.D. 1447–1066),' edited by J. E. B. Mayor.—'Memorials of King Henry the Seventh; Bernardi Andree Tholosatis de Vita Regis Henrici Septimi Historia; necnon alia quedam ad eundem Regem spectantia,' edited by J. Gairdner, Esq.—'Memorials of Henry the Fifth, 1. Vita Henrici Quinti, Roberto Redmanno auctore. 2. Versus Rhythmici in laudem Regis Henrici Quinti. 3. Elmhani Liber Metricus de Henrico V.,' edited by C. A. Cole, Esq.—'Memorials Londonienses; scilicet Liber Albus necnon Liber Customarum in archivis Guyhalde asservati,' edited by H. T. Riley, Esq.—'Eulogium (Historiarum sive Temporis), Chronicon ab Orbe condito usque ad Annum Domini 1366; a Monacho quodam Malmesbiriensi exaratum, Vol. I.,' edited by F. S. Haydon, Esq.—'The Buik of the Cronicles of Scotland; or a Metrical Version of the History of Hector Boece, by William Stewart, Vols. II. and III.,' edited by W. B. Turnbull, Esq.—'The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle,' edited by B. Thorpe, Esq.—'Le Livre de Reis de Britannie,' edited by J. Glover; and last, yet most important of all to the historical writer, a 'Descriptive Catalogue of Manuscripts relating to the Early History of Great Britain,' edited by T. Duffus Hardy, Esq. Besides these works, all of which ought to be published within a year from this date if not earlier, the following works are in the hands of editorial gentlemen:—'Bartholomei de Cotton, Monachi Norwicensis, Historia Anglicana (A.D. 449–1296),' edited by

H. R. Luard,—"Historia Minor Matthei Paris," edited by Sir F. Madden,—"Chronica Johannis de Oxenades," edited by Sir H. Ellis,—"Recueil des Chroniques et anciennes histoires de la Grant Bretagne a present nomme Engleterre, par Jehan de Waurin," edited by W. Hardy, Esq.,—"The Wars of the Danes in Ireland; written in the Irish Language," edited by the Rev. Dr. Todd,—"The Brut y Tywysogion, or the Chronicle of the Princes of Wales, and the Annales Cambrie," edited by the Rev. J. Williams,—"The 'Opus Tertium' and 'Opus Minus' of Roger Bacon, edited by the Rev. J. S. Brewer,—"A Collection of Political Poems from the Accession of Edward III. to the Reign of Henry VIII., edited by T. Wright, Esq.,—"and 'A Collection of Royal and Historical Letters during the Reigns of Henry IV., Henry V., and Henry VI.,' edited by the Rev. F. C. Hingeston. Here is goodly work in able hands.

We hear that, at last, the public are likely to obtain copies of Raffaele's Cartoons, more accurate than Holloway's or Burnet's engravings. The department of Science and Art has determined to have them photographed, and Mr. Thurston Thompson, Photographer to the department, is now at work at Hampton Court successfully. The photographs are to be used as prizes for schools of Art, and will also be published for the benefit of the public.

Despite wind and rain, the Atlantic line seems to have been laid down in the bed of the ocean. The Agamemnon is at Valentia, the Niagara at Newfoundland, and the signals between the vessels work freely. Every one will rejoice at this success. We trust that no mishap may come to snatch from us at the last hour the fruits of our enterprise and science.

Newspapers record the death of Alexis Soyer, the ex-chef of the Reform Club. As a writer of books on food and cookery—of 'The Gastronomic Regenerator,' the 'Pantropheon, or History of Food,' the 'Shilling Cookery,' and the 'Culinary Campaign,'—he may fairly claim a word of notice from a literary chronicler.

Mr. Faed and Mr. Solomon have each addressed us on the comments made on their transactions by Lord Lyndhurst in the House of Lords last week. Mr. Faed corrects a slight detail in our statement of his case; and both the writers protest very fairly against their practice being held up as an example of artistic or professional impropriety. Mr. Faed writes:—

"Cavendish Road, St. John's Wood, Aug. 3.

"I am much indebted to you for your remarks, in the *Athenæum* of the 31st ult., in reference to my picture of 'Home and the Homeless,' mentioned in Lord Lyndhurst's recent speech upon the Law of Copyright. But there are some inaccuracies in your statement of the facts, to which I am sure you will permit me to call your attention. The picture was not painted by me in duplicate; but the one seen at Manchester (referred to by his Lordship) was the original sketch, which, after the sale of the original, I had worked up, finished, and sold to another person, according to a practice which is of usual, almost unvarying, occurrence. I beg to add, that there was no guarantee given by me to the purchaser of the original picture that it should not be copied, and, therefore, had I made and sold a copy of it, I should have invaded no 'understanding' to that effect. But I have not made and sold a copy; for, in working up and finishing my original sketch, I so altered it in every detail of light and shadow, choice and contrast of colour, the character and form of objects, and in other important details, that, artistically speaking, no two pictures could be more unlike each other. And, in fact, with the exception of the two following subjects, 'Sir W. Scott and his Friends' and 'The Fair Maid of Perth' (and even in these instances the resemblances are slight and the pictures small), I can confidently say, that I have never made copies of any of my works; for, although I have always felt that I could have done so if I chose, and have never pledged myself on the subject when I have sold a picture, my desire has always been to turn my attention to fresh subjects instead of to copy

old ones, however profitable the opposite course might have been to me.—I am, &c.,

"THOMAS FAED."

—Mr. Solomon writes:—

"18, Gower Street, Bedford Square, Aug. 3.

"Permit me to explain the circumstances connected with the sale of my picture, 'The Second Class,' mentioned in your paper of the 31st ult. The picture was sold by me, not to a noble Marquis, but to a well-known publisher, who, at the time of purchase (from the easel), commissioned me to paint for him a duplicate. The only reason why I recur to a subject the general bearing of which is so satisfactorily explained in your paper is lest it might be erroneously inferred that the picture was purchased from me by the noble Marquis alluded to,—and purchased, too, under the false impression that it was unique.

"I have, &c., A. SOLOMON."

Can anybody tell the meaning of a paragraph in the newspapers which represents a gentleman (whose name we abstain from writing) as going to St. Cloud in the name of the Committee of the Actors' College? The gentleman, we read, has been received by the Emperor. Who sent him over? What are his instructions? Is he charged to tender the respectful homage of English letters and English dramatic art to France? Is he sent to beg money? Is he sent to obtain permission for us to erect a school and an almshouse in Berkshire with our own money?—or is he sent merely because it is a fashion of the hour for even greater corporations than the Committee of the Actors' College to kiss the boots and seek the approbation of the French potentate?

Mr. Singer's collection of autograph letters and manuscripts was sold by Messrs. Sotheby & Wilkinson, on Tuesday, at high prices. The following are among the more curious articles:—Dryden, the poet, to Mrs. Stewart, of Cotterstock, a very interesting letter, printed by Malone in his edition of Dryden, 10*l.*,—another letter from the same to Dr. Busby, 7*l.*,—Dr. Goldsmith to Sir Joshua Reynolds, 8*l.* 5*s.*,—Dr. Johnson to Lady Southwell, a letter of condolence on the loss of her husband, 5*l.* 15*s.*,—Mary Queen of Scots to the Cardinal of Lorraine, chiefly in cipher, 11*l.* 15*s.*,—Signature of John Milton, the poet, on the conveyance of a bond for 400*l.*, 19*l.* 19*s.*, bought by Mr. Monckton Milnes.—Letter from Nell Gwynne to Mr. Laurence Hyde, very characteristic and interesting, and from which the following quotation may be given:—"Now lets talk of State Affaires, for we never caried things so cunningly as now, for we dont know whether we shall have peice or war; but I am for war, and for no other reason but that you may come home," 13*l.*—Among the manuscripts may be mentioned, *Glossarium Anglicum in tota Biblia Sacra*, of the fourteenth century, 28*l.*,—Troilus and Creseid, with y^e Comments of Sir Fra. Kynaston, 27*l.* 10*s.*,—*Speculum Vitæ*, the Myrrour of Life, a beautifully written manuscript, formerly in the library of the Fermors, 84*l.*,—another manuscript bearing the same title, 31*l.*,—*Vite Sanctorum*, an early manuscript, 26*l.*,—*Lectionarium*, continens Epistolas et Evangelias, a very beautiful manuscript of the eleventh or twelfth century, 190*l.* The day's sale produced nearly 900*l.*

By a French official return of railway accidents in that country it appears that between the 7th of September 1855 and the 31st of December 1856, the number of railway passengers in France was 224,345,769. Of these, 1,979 were injured and 999 killed—in all 2,978. Of this number 1,134—334 killed and 800 wounded—arose from defects in the working of the railways; while 1,844—665 killed and 1,179 wounded—arose from individual carelessness. Excluding the railway officials, the number of passengers killed by the working of the trains was only 111.

Bad embroidery and beadledom may between them play strange tricks with a party of pleasure, as the gentlemen of Louvain know, if the papers tell true. The other day at "the Procession des Miracles" at Brussels, it appears that a society, probably musical, presented itself, in Belgian fashion, to swell the procession with its ensign. This had the same effect on the police as the well-

known scarlet rag has on the bull in the Spanish amphitheatre. The flag was red; it was surmounted with a truculent, bearded, gilt head, looking perilously sinister,—and the legend was thought to be "Orzini." Louvain was taken up wholesale, withdrawn from the show, and set apart for examination. It proved that the innocent and musical gentlemen of the town had wished to put themselves under the banner of an Italian: but that Italian (represented awkwardly in the whiskered bust) turned out to be not the prison-breaker and conspirator, but one who had nothing more to do with rebellion than by composing 'Guillaume Tell'—Signor Rossini!

A calm and sagacious paper on the Literary Fund appears in the current number of the *North British Review*, pronouncing very distinctly in favour of the reform. We may, perhaps, return to one or two points suggested by the article; but, in the mean time, we place the writer's summary of his investigation before our readers. "The Society," he says, "as we have shown, had but a struggling life in Williams's days, and had not obtained its formal charter of incorporation when he died; but his known intentions were so far remembered and respected, that the establishment of 'a hall or college' is one of the objects for which the Committee are empowered in the charter itself. Williams, however, it should be borne in mind, never proposed taking a house out of the sums subscribed and bequeathed for the 'relief of learning and genius.' The Fund, he said, would be better for a house, but it must be obtained, if at all, 'without expense.' He asked the 'Prince of Wales' to 'bestow on it a place of abode'; but, until he obtained it, he held his meetings, as the Artists' General Benevolent Fund and other Societies now do, in a room hired for the occasion. The Reformers, however, did not venture to recommend the giving up of the house which the Committee had so resolutely defended, but merely suggested that it should be made at no additional expense useful to literature and learning in some way. They proposed, in fact, to carry out the details of Williams's plan, and recommended the Committee so to do; but the tide of reform suddenly turned, and the Committee at the next meeting refused to adopt the suggestions. The sudden change in the Committee's determination evidently received a strong support from their more aristocratic members, who seem to have taken offence at the Reformers' recommendation to remove them in favour of persons more closely connected with literature. The Reformers, however, appear only to have objected to Lords who were not men of letters, their proposed house-list comprising Earl Stanhope, the Earl of Ellesmere, Lord John Russell, Lord Carlisle, the Marquis of Normanby, and others. We are decidedly of opinion that every member of the Committee should be a man of letters. 'Common charities,' as Franklin remarked upon the first proposal of the Society, 'spring from common feelings.' A Committee composed of literary men will best judge of the troubles of their brethren; and, what is of still more importance, will, probably, have the best knowledge, or the means of obtaining the best knowledge, of the claimants themselves. Such a Committee would hardly think of pleading, as this present Committee have done, that the men of 'learning and genius' whom they relieved were so little known to them that a large portion of the Society's annual revenue was consumed in merely inquiring into and verifying claims. We have treated this subject at greater length than the interests directly involved would, perhaps, warrant, because it appears to us to yield an instructive chapter on benevolent committees. We agree with Mr. Dickens and his party in thinking that it forms 'a remarkable instance of the condition into which good-enough men will often lapse when they get behind a large table.' We cannot, however, believe that improvement can be much longer resisted."

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—The GALLERY, with a Collection of Pictures by Ancient Masters and deceased British Artists, is OPEN DAILY from Ten to Six, and WILL CLOSE on SATURDAY, the 28th of August.—Admission, 1*s.*; Catalogue, 6*d.* GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

ROSA BONHEUR'S NEW PICTURES. 'LANDAIS PEASANTS' going to MARKET, and 'MORNING IN THE HIGHLANDS' together with her Portrait, by Ed. Dubufe, are NOW ON VIEW at the German Gallery, 128, New Bond Street.—Admission, 1s. Open from Nine till Six.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—Patron—H.R.H. THE PRINCE CONSORT.—NEW DISSOLVING VIEWS.—View of CHERBOURG, its DOCKS, FORTIFICATIONS, &c.—(includes a picturesque TRIP THROUGH FRANCE)—(CHEMISTRY, its mysteries experimentally unravelled.—DOMESTIC ECONOMY—Food, its adulterations.—LECTURE on ENGLISH BALLAD MUSIC by T. PRYDE, Esq., assisted by MISS FREEMAN.—DEMONSTRATIONS of INVENTIONS.—Principles of DIVING and DIVING BELLS elucidated.—HYDRO-OXYGEN MICROSCOPE, with its aquatic monsters.—ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION, ONE GUINEA.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, a, Tichbourne Street, opposite the Haymarket, Open Daily for Gentlemen only.—Lectures by Dr. Kahn at Three, and by Dr. Sisson at Four and Eight o'clock, on important and interesting topics in connexion with Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology (vide Programme). Admission 1s.—Dr. Kahn's Nine Lectures on the Philosophy of Marriage, &c., sent post free direct from the Author on the receipt of twelve stamps.

SCIENCE

STATISTICS.

Criminal Returns for 1857. (Her Majesty's Stationery Office.)

THE criminal returns for the past year are more than usually interesting, for they include in a very nearly perfect form the police statistics of England and Wales. Formerly the returns showed only the number of commitments; in future all judicial statistics will be given.

The police returns for 1857, which it must be remembered are unavoidably incomplete, give the following results of summary procedure:—Number of persons proceeded against summarily: males, 291,030; females, 78,203. Discharged by justices, 98,795 males; 36,679 females. Convicted, 192,235 males; 41,524 females. Here we have a total of 233,759 persons convicted and punished by summary procedure,—while the commitments for trial during 1857 amounted to only 20,269.—The police returns of summary convictions present some interesting results. The following table shows the characters of the persons who came into their custody:—

Characters.	Proceeded against by summary procedure.		Proceeded against summarily.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Known Thieves	5,005	1,428	13,551	3,118	23,102
Prostitutes	—	2,484	—	21,798	24,282
Vagrants and Tramps	718	105	13,554	4,833	19,270
Suspicious Characters	5,884	1,245	34,228	5,447	46,804
No known occupations	313	75	4,905	1,621	6,914
Previous good Characters	4,958	1,150	107,059	13,398	126,505
Characters unknown and not ascertained	6,524	2,082	117,738	27,988	154,327
Total	23,402	8,629	291,030	78,203	401,264

Upon the above large data it appears that of those proceeded against by indictment 54.0 were of the criminal class, 19.1 per cent. of previous good character, and of 26.9 per cent. the characters were either unknown or were not ascertained.

Another interesting return is that of the findings of coroners' juries during 1857. Coroners' inquests were held on 13,941 males and 6,216 females—making a total of 20,157. Of these, 184 were brought in murder; 187 manslaughter; 6 justifiable homicide; 1,349 suicide; 8,930 accidental death; 237 injuries, causes unknown; 2,949 found dead; 323 excessive drinking; 143 disease, aggravated by neglect; 187 want, cold, and exposure; and 5,682 other causes. The above numbers prove a decrease of 2,064 inquests, 9.4 per cent. on the previous year, with which alone the means of comparison exist, as the returns were then compiled for the first time. The diminution is attributed to the greater control which the Quarter Sessions have recently exercised in the disallowance of the costs of inquests which the Court deem to have been unnecessarily held. The periods of life of the persons upon whom the inquests were held, distinguishing the infant, the adult, and the aged and infirm, were—infants, 7 years and under, 5,496; under 16 and above 7, 1,716; 16 and under 60 years, 9,731; above 60 years, 3,214. The total costs of the inquests in 1857 were 61,541l. 11s. 7d., giving an average of 3l. 1s. 0½d. for each inquest.

The commitments for trial in 1857 happily maintain the largely diminished numbers which followed the passing of the Criminal Justice Act of 1855. But on comparing the commitments of 1857 with 1856, there is, nevertheless, an increase of 832 commitments, or 4.3 per cent. Here are the returns for the past 10 years:—

1848	30,349	1853	27,057
1849	27,816	1854	29,359
1850	26,313	1855	25,972
1851	27,969	1856	19,437
1852	27,510	1857	20,269

140,448

122,094

The increase in 1857 has extended over 32 counties, principally in the great seats of manufacture and trade. In the agricultural counties, the results are more mixed. Of the eastern counties, there is an increase in Lincoln, Norfolk, and Suffolk; a small decrease in Essex, and in the midland counties of Northampton, Bedford, Oxford, and Bucks, as also in Sussex, Wilts, Dorset, and Somerset; but there is an increase in Hants. In the metropolis, where any change affecting the working population is not so immediately felt, the decrease shown in Middlesex during the two previous years still continues, but not to the same extent,—while in Surrey and Kent, a large proportion of the population of which is located in and on the boundaries of the metropolis, the commitments increased. In Wales there is an increase in seven counties, which is more marked in Glamorganshire; of the border counties an increase is shown in Monmouth and Hereford, which is very large in the former, but a considerable decrease took place in Shropshire. The following table shows the results of the 20,269 commitments in 1857:—

Not prosecuted, and admitted evidence	135
No bills found against	1,004
Not guilty on trial	3,788
Acquitted and discharged	4,927
Acquitted on the ground of insanity	19
Found insane	16
Detained as insane	35
Sentenced to death	54
transportation	110
penal servitude	2,473
imprisonment	12,507
whipping, fine, &c.	163
Convicted	15,307
Total committed	20,269

The executions last year were all for murder. Of the 20 persons convicted of this crime 13 were executed, all of whom were men.

The statistics of the ages of those committed in 1857 exhibit a marked decrease of commitments under 16 years of age. The following table shows the countries where those committed were born:—

Birthplace.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion Per Cent.
England	72,741	24,313	97,054	77.8
Wales	1,942	961	2,903	2.3
Scotland	1,617	782	2,399	1.9
Ireland	11,105	6,962	18,067	14.5
Colonies and East Indies	543	109	652	0.5
Foreign Countries	1,842	174	2,016	1.6
Not ascertained	1,287	445	1,732	1.4
Total	91,077	33,746	124,823	100.0

—The degree of instruction was, as usual, extremely small: only 5.1 per cent. of those committed last year were able to read and write well. The proportion was as follows:—neither read nor write, 35.5 per cent.; read and write imperfectly, 58.0; read and write well, 5.1; superior instruction, 0.3; not ascertained, 1.1.

The annual increasing proportion of the female commitments is a painful feature of the returns, and is a discouraging sign among some evidences of improvement which the returns present. Of the commitments for trial in 1857, the proportion of females was 21.0 per cent.; of the summary convictions, 28.3 per cent.; of the total commitments, 24.3 per cent. But the females form a very much larger proportion of the re-commitments, and prove the greater difficulties in the way of female reformation, after the taint of commitment to prison. With regard to age it appears that crime does not begin so early among women as among men. Under 16 years of age the proportion of females to males is 13.4 per cent. only. In the

five years between that age and 21 years the proportion is doubled, being 26.9 per cent. But the largest proportion of women is found between the ages of 21 and 30 years, when it reaches 29.9 per cent. In the whole of the remaining period of life, 30 years and above, the proportion falls to 28.3 per cent. In instruction, too, the women are found to be behind the men: 18.3 per cent. only of those who can read and write well are females, while 30.7 per cent. could neither read nor write.

Under the head of "Prisons," we find that the prisons last year were able to contain 26,022 prisoners, while the greatest number in them at any time was 23,639, the daily average being 19,009. The punishment inflicted on the prisoners was as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Whipping	237	—	237
Irons or handcuffs	84	25	109
Solitary or dark cells	12,758	2,144	14,902
Stoppage of diet	38,740	6,503	45,243
Other punishment	2,045	156	2,201
Total	53,806	8,918	62,722

The total cost of the prisons last year was 447,004l. 16s. 8d.—which gives as the average annual cost of each prisoner 23l. 10s. 3d. This excludes the Government prisons, in which the total average annual charge per prisoner was 33l. 11s. 4d. This greater charge arises chiefly from the higher scale of remuneration to the officers, and on the dietary and allowances to convicts, which are nearly double the average in the local prisons.

The unprotected and extremely helpless state of the young children committed, led to the establishment of Reformatory schools, which seem, on the whole, to be working well. These schools, which combine a new form of treatment for juvenile offenders, were established for the purpose of giving legal custody to their directors and superintendents over persons committed within the age of 16 years for any period not less than 2 years nor more than 5 years. The number of these schools continues to increase. They now amount to 40, 12 having been added in the last year. The expenses of this class of prisoners are defrayed from the public revenues at a fixed allowance of 7s. per head weekly. They amounted for the year ending the 27th of September 1857 to 20,641l. 2s., of which 221l. 7s. 10d. was recovered from the parents or step-parents under the provisions of the Reformatory Schools Act. The total numbers committed to Reformatory during the last four years were:—23, 176, 534 and 1,119.

Under the head of "Criminal Lunatics," whose commitments are now included in the general "Judicial Statistics," we find that at the commencement of the past year, 586 were under detention, and 131 were committed during the year. The total cost of this class of prisoners in the year was 19,836l. 9s. 6d., of which only 1,541l. 14s. 2d. was defrayed from the funds of the lunatics or by their friends.

The returns for the past year mark a most important change. Transportation, which has been in operation since the act of parliament of 18 Car. 2, and which authorized Judges either to execute, or to transport for life to America the moss-troopers of Cumberland or Westmoreland, was abolished in 1857; for although the power to remove convicts to the penal colonies is reserved, and is applicable to all those sentenced to penal servitude, it does not seem probable that it will be exercised unless in very exceptional cases. For several years the numbers transported to Australia averaged about 4,000; last year they amounted to 461. In 1856, 2,915 convicts were discharged on tickets-of-leave; last year the number was reduced to 933; of these, 926 were discharged from the government prisons, and 7 women from local prisons.

The organization of the police force throughout the kingdom, which was only established in several counties towards the middle of last year, has doubtless been the means of detecting a large amount of crime. The total cost of the police force in 1857 was 1,265,579l. 18s. The total establishment of permanent paid police was 19,187, of which 6,635 were metropolitan and city of London.

THE FIRST KENT ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY AT CANTERBURY.

THE wealthy, productive and venerable county of Kent, possessing two cathedrals, and including St. Augustine's Priory, St. Martin's, the earliest ecclesiastical foundation in England, the oldest Roman castle, the broad battle-field of some of the severest contests with the Danes, a yet-existing Quintain, and the shore upon which the great Julius himself landed, has until recently been destitute of any organized body to collect and record its archaeological features and chronicle discoveries. Within the last few months a Kentish Archaeological Society has been established, and held its first annual general meeting in the metropolitan city of Canterbury, within the precincts of its magnificent cathedral, on Friday, the 30th of July. The Society and its friends assembled in the Guildhall, under the presidency of the Marquis Camden, and after preliminary reports on business matters adjourned to the chapter-room of the cathedral. Here they were addressed by Canon Stanley, who pointed out the leading architectural features and historical associations connected with the buildings around them. In the north transept, the scene of Becket's murder, the learned canon gave a vivid and detailed account of the event, and many circumstances that preceded it, heightened in point of interest by ocular demonstration afforded by the locality, but devoid of any novel feature or illustration to those who were acquainted with the book which Canon Stanley had already published on the subject. In the choir and in the crypt the visitors had the best opportunities of observing the extent of the original Norman church, and how portions had been subsequently added both for enrichment and for the accommodation of the continually increasing throng of pilgrims during the Middle Ages. The excellent and certainly—in this country—unrivalled, old painted glass in the eastern portion of the edifice obtained a well-deserved attention. After the entire extent of these buildings had been carefully examined, the Society divided itself into minor parties according as preference led them, some to inspect the walls and castle under the guidance of Mr. Masters, others to the Church of St. Martin and the Pilgrims' Inn, but the majority followed Mr. Beresford-Hope, M.P., to the College of St. Augustine, where the labours of Mr. Butterfield, the restoring architect, and Mr. Willement (by whom many of the windows had been "richly dignified") were fully recognized. After the, we suppose, never-to-be-dispensd-with dinner, the company who intended to remain in Canterbury adjourned, by invitation, to the gardens of the Deanery, where they disported themselves, with exquisite choral music and conversation, till nightfall, when the tolling curfew, still retained in this venerable city, with singular obsolescence of effect, since it served almost as the signal for the numerous guests to repair to the well-lighted reception-rooms of the Dean, where music, paintings, and books afforded a rich treat to lovers of all refined pursuits. Upon the tables were deposited many valuable relics of archaeological interest, which had been lost in the crowded assembly of the Guildhall at the commencement of the proceedings. The following merited especial observation:—A bronze ship-trumpet, six feet long, found in two pieces, at a considerable interval of time, in Romney Marsh, and exhibited by Mr. H. B. Mackeyson, of Hythe,—a remarkable and unique specimen of this instrument, frequently represented upon civic seals, and bearing the arms of Leon and Castile, most probably of the fourteenth century. A series of Anglo-Saxon gold ornaments of various forms, some circular, and others tapering or pear-shaped, like the celebrated Alfred jewel in the Ashmolean Collection, found in a railway excavation at Faversham, and belonging to Mr. Gibbs, afforded some of the finest specimens of gold filigree work and *cloisonné* enamel applied to jewelry extant. The delicate golden walls, or divisions of the various enamel colours, seem to have been filled in with corresponding cut stones rather than a vitreous paste, and afterwards fused as in the ordinary process. Large metallic horse-trappings, swords, and a large amethyst bead were also exhibited from

the same locality. A fine pendant ornament of gold, embellished with pearls, also excited considerable admiration; together with a silver matrix of an archiepiscopal seal, of the usual vesica form, and a gimmel ring. The Rev. Peter Rashleigh displayed a Roman gold bracelet and various personal ornaments, found fifty years since near Southfleet, in Kent. The Secretary of the Society, the Rev. Lambert Larking, contributed a holograph document from the hand of William of Wykeham. A yellow coloured Roman glass vessel,—a MS. account of domestic expenditure, by Juliana de Leybourne, in the fourteenth century,—an early pedigree of the De Redesdale family,—an Anglo-Saxon charter,—a grant of the manor of Surrenden,—and the Diary of Sir Edward Dering, containing valuable accounts of the Parliament during the Commonwealth, all belonging to the Dering family. Careful transcripts of the mural paintings recently found in Faversham Church were also exhibited by Mr. Willement, of Davington Priory. This, the youngest and most to be looked for of antiquarian local Societies, judging by the numerous attendance and influential supporters, has started into a healthy and robust existence. Whether Maidstone or Rochester will be the point of assembly next year has not yet been definitely resolved upon.

In our wanderings through the Cathedral it was impossible to escape noticing the western windows of the aisles of the nave. It has been our duty from time to time to record changes that have taken place in this very important branch of ecclesiastical decoration. Too frequently have we been compelled to utter both warnings and protests against the dangerous rapidity with which *fine colours* without sense or harmony were taking possession of beautiful tracery and important positions. We remained silent, for obvious reasons, upon the memorial windows to Sir Robert Inglis, and the builder of the north-western tower, wretched though they were in point of Art,—but we now find the mischief spreading to the great windows of the nave itself, and feel it time indeed to call attention to two that have been inserted on the south side of the nave next the door, each containing three tiers of four full-length figures, which, if judged by the common rules applied to pictures, are unsatisfactory in the extreme, and if regarded as architectural decoration in a building containing magnificent statues on the choir-screen and genuine painted glass of various periods, indicate extreme toleration or indifference on the part of the authorities. It is high time, indeed, that a serious consideration be raised, and that the same expenditure, both of time and labour, be devoted to a more appropriate department. Our better artists, with the exception of Mr. Dyce, seem to neglect this very important department of design,—but a glance at the magnificent surfaces to be enriched would convince many that are adequately gifted of the scope for designs of really high Art open to them. Servile and pernicious reproductions of antiquity are not required. Earnest, original and *appropriate* inventions are what we still look for, and hope, although at still far distant time, to find these requisitions fulfilled. If, at the present time, good figure-designers are not forthcoming, and plain white window-glass be objectionable (as no doubt it is in an edifice of this nature), give us simply patterns in colours, and for this purpose the varied hues afforded by a Turkey-carpet would best suit the purpose. So far our abilities are fully proved by the admirable combinations of colour in Oriental fashion which have been produced among our carpet and floor-cloth designers,—and such a talent would undoubtedly afford the best stop-gap and recruiting time towards perfection in an art for which the Flemish, Venetians and English did in former times emulate each other.

FINE ARTS

JOHN HOGAN, THE SCULPTOR.

AN hour before daylight, say the figurative believers in the coming regeneration of Ireland, Hogan was born. A writer in the *Irish Quarterly Review* for July, who has induced us to return to

the subject, and from whom we shall draw some of our facts, calls him (forgetful of MacIae) "the first Irish artist"—the first Irishman whose passionate desire was to glorify by his genius the country of his birth and love.

Hogan was born in October, 1800, in the town of Tallow, county Waterford. His father was an honest master builder, and came of an old tribe mentioned in the famous 'Annals of the Four Masters,' that had a castle of its own in Tipperary. His mother was a Miss Frances Cox, great granddaughter of the Lord Chancellor of Ireland in the time of Queen Anne. She fell in love with the young builder, and marrying him forfeited a portion of 2,000*l.* A few months after the sculptor's birth his family removed to Cove Street, in a quaint declining quarter of Cork—a quarter where a race of people lived who ignored all connexion with the northern manufacturing section of the city. The pleasant hill sides round Cork, with the running river, and the distant Glannire hills, fed the young artist with daily draughts of beauty. Cork society at this time was eminently social: South Mall, Patrick's Hill, Blackpool and Blarney Lane had but one heart among them.

Cork genius all over Ireland is known to be specially energetic, quick winged, and mercurial. It is all owing to the whiskey and the sea air. Barry's name was as a beacon still to young ambitions. Maginn, the most learned clown that ever cut capers, was keeping a school in Marlborough Street. Father Prout was home from college full of hope and wit, MacIae was a boy at the Society of Arts. Hogan was sent to school at eight years old, and took to mathematics and history kindly, eventually finding his way into an attorney's office, where he shirked copying, and took, under covert of his desk lid, to cutting figures in wood, and drawing from architectural designs bought from shop-windows. A client of his master's, Dr. Coghlan, a physician, once surprised him at work, praised his sketches, and rewarded him with a bright crown piece, perhaps the sweetest money he ever earned. Copying the design for a new gaol on the banks of the Lee led to his being placed in the office of Messrs. Deane, the contractors, for whom in an emergency he had executed the outline drawings. He was employed as model carver, and when his first set of chisels were given him professed himself at once a sculptor. He studied hard at modelling hands and feet, and carved a wooden skeleton for an anatomical lecturer.

In 1815, at the close of the war, Pope Pius the Seventh, in gratitude to the English Government for restoring the stolen property from the Louvre, presented the Prince Regent with a magnificent selection of casts, taken under Canova's superintendence. By good luck they were obtained for Cork, which in 1816 had manifested a love of Art by forming a local Society. Hogan threw himself upon them with all the hunger of genius. He drew, sighed and looked, looked and sighed, and modelled day and night. Mr. Carey, a patron of Art, coming accidentally into the gallery, observed a small figure of a Torso cut in pine, asked the sculptor, and heard of Hogan, the young carpenter,—saw his Triumph of Silenus, &c., and was pleased. He at once kindly and generously started a subscription, and with Lord de Tabley's help collected 250*l.* to send the young Irish sculptor to study in Rome. Hogan came to London, did not think much of Flaxman, admired Roubilliac's Shakspeare, and thought the Elgin marbles over-praised. He hung over the Ghiberti Gates at Florence, and on Palm Sunday, 1824, entered the Eternal City. He worked hard in the halls of the Vatican and Capitol, and in the Life Academies of the French and English. He saw with Catholic uncton the glittering ceremonials of a church whose arguments are addressed to the eye. He sees the heads of Leo's victims passed on dishes round the guillotine in the Piazza near the round Temple of Vesta. He lodges in the Vicolo de Greci, out of the Corso, in a house round whose grated windows the green figs hang, and where in the garden the vines groaned under the weight of Pergolese grapes. Tired of waiting, he daringly took a studio on credit, and prepared a statue of a shepherd-boy and goat ready for the English season.

Low-spirited already on his last 401, and still unemployed, he is cheered by a fresh 1501, from his kind friends, Mr. Carey and Sir John Leicester. He wrote home and offered for 501. to cut in marble for a chapel at Cork a baso-relievo of a Dead Christ. For his patron, Sir John Leicester, he executed as a commission 'Eve startled at the sight of Death,'—a beautiful subject, worthy of Gesner's poem. Gibson had praised his Sabine boy, now Albignini and Rinaldi admired the grace and simplicity of this statue; but before he could finish it Sir John died, but Hogan received from his successor 741, the mere price of the marble and hewing out. This beautiful statue had never been unpacked till it appeared at the Manchester Exhibition. Provoked by a cold sneer of Gibson, who had tacitly assented to an assertion of Camuccini, that anything original in the classic style was impossible, Hogan produced his Drunken Faun, which Thorwaldsen pronounced worthy of an Athenian studio, and which Hogan afterwards reproduced. Full of desire for home fame, his whole wish now was to execute a Dead Christ for the Carey's Lane Chapel at Cork. The work was pronounced a *capo d'opera*,—but owing to some mistake he lost the commission, got in debt for the marble, and was threatened with a cool chamber in the Castle of St. Angelo. With 551. of borrowed money he started home, sending his statues with luxurious care and he himself roughing it almost on foot. These debts he cleared off by selling the Dead Christ to a Dublin Carmelite Chapel for 401. After this he returned to Rome with several commissions, and began at a *Pietà*. He lived on good terms with his brother artists, now helping Gibson with a hint, now modelling with Theed, now chatting with Tenerani and Benconi, or listening with kindling eyes to Thorwaldsen's parting words—"My son, you are the best sculptor I leave after me in Rome." In 1838 Hogan married a young Roman lady, and grew from that time a very Italian, regular at church and *caffè*. He now began his monument to Dr. Doyle, a commission, in competition for which he defeated ten rivals. After this he was elected a Member of the Incorporated Congregation of the Pantheon, of which the Pope was President. No British subject had ever before been enrolled among its Members. About the same time also he became a Member of the Academy of St. Luke. In 1840 Hogan returned to exhibit his works in Dublin. A priest Committee treated him with slovenly neglect, and would not give him more than 1,0001. for his Dr. Doyle statue. Lord Cloncurry, appealed to, lamented the want of principle and the careless promises made never to be performed. Subscriptions came in slowly. Six years after, 4201. still remained unpaid, and, after all, Hogan calculated he did not get more than a pound a week for the time spent on this monument for Carlow Cathedral. Through Lord Morpeth's kind exertions Hogan returned to Rome with a commission for a colossal statue of Mr. Drummond, which in spirit and sentiment was a triumph. A statue of Hibernia for Lord Cloncurry and a monument to Curran's daughter next occupied him; and in 1843, in the heat of the timid nibblings at rebellion, the Repeal Association directed Hogan to begin a statue of the Liberator 10 feet high. Hogan found his mouth and chin beautiful, but his eyes small and his flesh old, sunk and morbid. At Mullaghmast he was foolish enough to crown Dan with the fool's cap made to resemble the old Milesian diadem. For this statue Hogan received only 1,6001., English sculptors generally charging 2,0001. for a colossal figure. Hogan generously and recklessly obtained at Rome a grand and expensive block of spotless Carrara marble, and cut the figure two feet higher than the terms of the agreement required. Hogan's studio became the house of call for Irishmen in Rome. On the shelves were busts of Father Mathew, Prout, Tom Steele, and Messrs. Beamish and Crawford of Cork, Peter Purcell, Cloncurry and Archbishop Murray. The Irish students from the religious colleges often looked in. Dr. Cullen and Dr. Mullock were often there. But the Revolution came and blighted Hogan's hopes in a day; a slander spread that he was disaffected, he was enrolled in the Civic Guard.

And when the Pope fled he determined to leave the city he considered accursed. In an evil hour he returned to Dublin. At home Hogan did not get on. He was proud, and despised the small intrigues of cliques,—pretentious mediocrity he put on the gloves against. He would not stoop for party favours,—he waited proudly for justice, but it passed him by. He was called a Republican and declared an exile from Rome at the very time the Italian police were letting him pass their gates with the impunity of a recognized, safe, known man. Hogan was too proud to compete for the Moore Testimonial in Dublin, and a bust-maker designed the lumpy figure that now encumbers the city. There can be little doubt that this disappointment all but broke the proud man's heart,—a hemorrhage came on, and he nearly died to death. An attempt to "cut him down" about an O'Connell statue at Limerick brought on paralysis. Late—late, indeed,—commissions came in. A bust of Banim for Kilkenny,—a bust of Grattan for Maryborough,—and much religious work for chapels and cathedrals. Even in distress, met with Roman stoicism and frugality, Hogan refused all hints of a pension, kept free of debt, and even found money for charity in the dreadful famine times.—"I want nothing," he said, "but work.—If my children were settled, I should be delighted to go to God." Touching incident: he was seen one midnight in his studio praying before his own figure of the Dead Christ. Too late the dawn began. Limerick wanted a statue of Sarsfield, "the hero of the treaty,"—Cork a Father Mathew,—London a bas-relief for the Wellington Testimonial,—Dublin a *Pietà* for the high altar in St. Saviour's. All was growing bright. "Two years," cried Hogan, "and I shall be independent."—The installation of his O'Connell statue at Limerick was his apotheosis. He was there himself. The country people fell on their knees before Dan's statue and cried—"He is not dead, he is not dead." Too late,—too late: life ebbed out of him,—he looked at his unfinished works,—said to his son, "Finish it well; I shall never touch chisel again." His last orders were to pin to the wall an engraving of Thorwaldsen's Christ that he might see its outstretched arms. His last words were—"Beautiful—how beautiful!"—fit words for a dying artist. Hogan's funeral was a public one. The students of Trinity College, without direction, followed the coffin. In pleasant Glasnevin, near the Liberator, Hogan was laid. At last tardy recognition began to rouse. Dr. Stokes kindly offered to educate Hogan's second son,—Trinity College is to make him free of its course. A Roscrea convent opens its doors to one of the daughters. The Jesuits educate two of the sons,—and it is hoped that the first work of the sculptor's child will be a monumental statue of Father Mathew for Cork—the consistent and steady patron of his father. In Hogan we see a persevering, proud, honest man,—sturdily independent, and generously reckless of those small prudences which, if neglected, take terrible revenge, and become such festering thorns in the pathway of genius.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—The Government has, on the recommendation of a special committee, consisting of Lord John Russell, Lord Elcho, and Mr. Coningham, M.P., decided on the purchase of Sir George Hayter's immense picture of the House of Commons first assembled after the passing of the Reform Bill. Apart from consideration of the subject as a matter of Art, this picture undoubtedly affords one of the greatest and most important collective series of portrait records in existence, and it is to be hoped will soon be deposited in some place where the public will have opportunities of referring to it.

The National Portrait Gallery has lately acquired an admirable miniature portrait in oils of Sir David Wilkie, by himself, valuable both for its technicalities as a specimen, and for its faithfulness as a likeness to those who best knew him. The Gallery also includes a very curious and authentic portrait of General Wolfe, from the Royal collection, presented by the King of the Belgians; portraits of John Kemble and Mrs. Siddons when young, by

Hopner and his pupil Stuart, both presented by Mr. Delane; and a striking portrait of the Princess Charlotte when in the bloom of youth and beauty. It was the first picture that Dawe painted from the life, and fondly cherished in his own keeping till his decease, and it has passed through the hands of his niece to the custody of the nation.

We have before us Part I. of 'Paradise Lost,' with Illustrations by John Martin (Washbourne & Co.). We are glad to have a cheap quarto reprint of the Poet of Cripple-gate, Broad Street and St. Bride's, with Martin's illustrations, though we may not accord to the artist so much wondrous merit as Sir E. B. Lytton has asserted for him:—"Martin (is) the greatest, the most lofty, the most permanent, the most original genius of his age: vastness is his sphere, yet he has not lost or circumscribed his genius in its space (what does this mean?) He is more original, more self-dependent, than Raffaele or Michael Angelo; they perfected the style of others, Martin borrowed from none." Martin had a certain great architectural talent. He multiplied other men's commonplaces by three, and the quotient was something out of the usual way, which went by the name of—Sublimity. He loved a *refrain*, a repetition and a continuance. But he was a great deal too clever to go much to Nature. It may be true that Da Vinci used to get hints from the stains on old walls, and that one of our English painters, Wilson or Gainsborough, used to paint from landscapes made up of milliners' moss and toy-houses; still, the practice cannot be defended, because Nature is a patient, untiring model, always waiting for you and charging nothing for sitting. But if you will not come to Nature, Nature will not come to you. There is a certain story told of Martin, which pleasantly illustrates the shifts of London artists who will paint country scenes and the danger of trusting too much to the imagination, however powerful. Martin is painting some sulphur-blasted, lightning-smitten rocks, such as jet over the Sea of Oblivion, or other vague region unknown to Capt. Cuttle and the geographers. He has no sketches by him, and everything he invents looks like lumps of mud, crumpled paper, or chopped wood. A thought strikes the keen-looking man,—he rings the bell violently; the slave of the lamp appears. He orders instantly two tons of the best Wallend. It comes; he has it tilted down on the floor of his studio. It shuffles and jolts down there in black splintery rocks, in dusty heaps, in strange angular corner-stones, such as might have been rent from ebony Domdanieli. The grimy black coal-heavers with the fan-tail hats and white stockings, which it is part of their religion to wear, disappear. Martin locks the door, takes out his paper and sketches in the top of Sinai,—the Wallend standing muster for the volcanic ridges of that calcined mountain. Martin, indeed, had imagination and multiplication enough to have made Paradise out of a pot of mignonette, and all the dwellers in the Ark out of the creatures in a farm-yard. He carried Turner's principle of distance into imaginative absurdities: he knew the trick of grandeur and of majesty. Take his Paradise—what is it!—a huge Greenwich Park mixed up with a few gentlemen's seats, and backed by a panoramic Caucasus and a small Llangollen. It is light and dark, out of order and too sudden. His figures are neat, correct and weak. The Paradise is a poor Beulah Spa sort of place after all,—where you would look for grand displays of fireworks, and expect behind some belt of cedar-trees to come suddenly upon a tawdry dancing-room. Then, again, the Hell—its horror is a Vathek horror—not the nightmare swarming dead—that fills you as you tread the fiery marl of Dante's Mirebolge. The Pandemonium is a dull Somerset House sort of thing, with Quadrants multiplied for passages, and Vauxhall Towers of Babel for domes, not forgetting a certain pantomimic garnishing of spitting, fretful dragons and stupidly stolid elephants put in niches merely to fill them up. The meanness of his figures takes away all sense we have of the dignity of his castles in the air.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MR. and MRS. HOWARD PAUL'S Comic, Musical, and Pantomime Drawing-room Entertainment, "PATCHWORK," at the EGYPTIAN HALL, EVERY EVENING, at Eight (during Mr. Albert Smith's absence abroad). Saturday Mornings at Three.—Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. No extra for booking places. The Salle is newly decorated.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.
WELSH AND IRISH MUSIC.

THE *Athenæum* runs small risk of being accused of undue predilections for Welsh antiquarianism, the puerility and obsolescence of which in the forms clung to have again and again afforded justifiable matter for remark. Yet we shall not be astonished if touchy minstrels belonging to the Land of Cakes and the Emerald Isle, both resolute to assert the supremacy of their national music, may feel offence and surprise when we say that to our apprehension the airs of the Principality are more beautiful than the airs of either Scotland or Ireland. That they have been so thoroughly overlooked as they have been by trained composers may be ascribed to the insulation and exclusiveness which the gentry and people of Wales seem to court as among the best heritages of a long pedigree. Yet 'The Queen's Dream,' and 'Ar hyd y Nos,' and 'Merch Megen,' and the 'Ash Grove,' and twenty more that we could name from the elder collections (without approaching the wilder, more curious, yet not less beautiful specimens in the collection of Miss M. J. Williams) would furnish capital and tractable *motivi* to any opera-maker in these exhausted days,—when, as in the case of M. Von Flotow's 'Martha,' 'The Last Rose of Summer' can rescue a feeble score from insipidity and neglect. The fine and musical lyrics written for some of the tunes in question by Mrs. Hemans have been too much forgotten, and are worth suggesting to any singer in search of a national ballad less worn than 'Bonny Dundee' or 'Rory O'More.'—Here, to point the moral of what has been said, is a collection of *Welsh Melodies arranged for the Harp*, by John Thomas, (Boosey & Son). The name of the editor is guarantee for its goodness as harp music.—In No. 1, 'The Ash Grove,' we have been used to a different version of the second part of the melody. Has Mr. Thomas tamed it?—No. 2, 'The Bells of Aberdyfi,' is a less symmetrical, but still grand tune from the Aberpergwm collection.—No. 3, 'Sweet Richard,' has a touch in it of the old-fashioned *Allemande*.—No. 4, 'The Rising of the Sun,' is an ancient harp tune, with a fine specimen of those unisons of which the Welsh melodists were as little afraid as is Signor Verdi.—No. 5, 'The March of the Men of Harlech,' is better worth taking up by any Meyerbeer than the poor *Dessauer March*, on which the triple military *finale* to 'L'Etoile' is based.—No. 7, 'Morva Rhuddlan,' is a stately melody in a minor key.—No. 8, 'The Allurement of Love,' is elegant, alluring (as it should be), and still within the regular bounds of propriety.—No. 9, 'The Rising of the Lark,' owes its peculiarity to its rhythm: the first part consisting of six bars; the second, of three four-bar phrases. The form of *refrain*, too, in it may be paralleled by more modern examples,—for instance, in the air in *E flat*, with variations, by Mendelssohn.—'Of a noble race was Shenkin,' No. 10, (again mark the unisons) was one of the few Welsh airs which reached Beethoven at Vienna,—and those who look at his arrangement of it may take a lesson from the penetrating intelligence with which, in his easy variations, as duet for piano and flute, or violin, he contrived to draw out and distinguish the unisonal feature aforesaid.—'Merch Megen' (No. 11), with its second part *alla Rosalia*, is another of those melodies of the Principality which are the most familiar.—Mr. Thomas, it must be repeated, though he has shown small research (wise, perhaps, in confining himself to what is best known), has done his duty well by his own instrument, in his preludes and variations. Nos. 6 and 12 are *fantasias* on tunes of his own,—tunes, too, not ungracious. But, as the rhymester said,

The old tunes are the best,—

and the melodies of Mr. Thomas, however *suave*, have neither the elevation, character, nor originality of the noble old harp-music of Wales.

The *Harmonized Airs from Moore's Irish Melodies, with Music*, (Longman & Co.), continue the handsome and convenient reprint of a very interesting musical work, in some respects satisfactorily; in others, some scrutiny is required. Has there not been re-arrangement here and there? If not, (and having no original editions to compare with, and but memory to guide us, Moore has a right to an "if") the Irish melodist and his playfellow, Sir John Stevenson, were more unscrupulous than to-day's punctilio will allow to pass. Turn to page 114, 'Oh! doubt me not,'—air, 'Yellow Wat and the Fox,' and the entire second part, beginning on the words—

Although this heart was early blown,
will be found changed, here having all its wild Irish iniquity, which gives the tune its colour, tamed out of it. In the second phrase aforesaid, the traditional tune coolly changes from the key of C major by an audacious B flat, which introduces a turn and a colour such as are not uncommon in Irish melodies, (take, for another instance, 'Nora Creina,' or Moore's)

Lesbia hath a beaming eye).

This B flat some remodeller has thought "inconvenient to my Lord Castlecomer," and has quietly corrected it; thereby making the wild air as insipid as some fourth-hand *barcarole*. Now, naturally enough, this last handsome edition will be appealed to, should any theorist on national music want to assert or to deny the B flat.—And with such contemporary misprints, or tamperings, or variations (as may be) in view, there are yet people who will wrangle for the Median and Persian cut of ancient tunes,—not merely on the tradition of ancient memory, but also on the testimony of ancient print or manuscript!—One remark more must be made as illustrative of modern progress. In recurring to these harmonized airs, we are struck by the coolness with which Moore—poet, musician, singer—could "throw over" poetical fitness when he had to deal with music. Glees, with a complete quartet of voices to sing the love-breathing of one lone lover—would be found, now-a-days, to jar on the sense, when the case is not one of narration, but of individual sentiment. With all Moore's faults and incompleteness, however—with all his love of false imagery (defects of his period, and to which, we imagine, he wakened up in some degree as time went on)—with all his masqueradings and tamperings with tunes—no English versifier or English musician can "be up to his work" (provided he meditates a work of Art) without an intimate, but yet discriminating, knowledge of the writings for music of Moore the artist.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—'Don Giovanni' and its changes.—Once upon an evening a Transatlantic seer and a strong-minded woman met in the box of an American theatre to admire the performances of Mdle. Fanny Elssler.—"Margaret," solemnly said the seer, enlightened by the Cachucha, "this is poetry." "No, Ralph," replied the lady fervently, "it is religion!"—With something of the lady's humour do we English regard the 'Don Juan' of Mozart. We will have nothing to say to Gluck; we listen with grudging hearts to 'Guillaume Tell'; we would not abide Spon-tini's 'Vestale'; 'Les Deux Journées' of Cherubini has no existence in our rubric;—but the feeling among our musicians and amateurs is, "Touch Mozart's honour—touch Britain's life,"—and year after year this spreads and grows and runs into fanaticism;—as when (for instance) it is demanded that songs omitted by the composer, or introduced by him as so many "*alias-es*," should every one of them be always executed.—Were our musical faith and reverence proportioned to the value of all objects, such ardour would be admirable;—as matters stand, it may be represented as an enthusiasm easy to keep up, and none the less delightful to indulge in, because it affords a refreshing outlet for comparison and abuse.—Thus much by way of "loose thoughts" on 'Don Juan's' canonization in England. To revert to the general remarks offered last week on changes admissible and inadmissible—let one be added for the digestion of the purists.—Would the most learned, gentle and reverential among them reduce the masquerade *finale* to its

original form—that is, to a movement entirely sustained by the principal singers? and clear themselves of cant by clearing the stage of its chorus!—The bad logic vented on all these subjects, the manifest inconsistency of those who are loudest in venting it, do small permanent harm to any one, so far as the progress of music is concerned, howbeit, for the moment, they may disturb the nerves of some who, for excitement's sake, rejoice in, and of others who, on principle, distrust exaggeration.

We pointed out, a week since, what appear to us to be the leading outlines of the case, if considered on general principles of Art. The transactions at Covent Garden *in re* 'Don Giovanni,' to our thinking, bear out and justify the remarks then made. Transposition throughout was inevitable if Signor Mario was to sing the part,—and here and there some modifications of phrase, such as were hailed in Rubini (consistency, again!), when the great tenor quietly substituted the ascending passage with its shake of the clarinet, in 'Il mio tesoro,' for the original group of notes. After close attention to the opera, we must say that this ungracious task of modification seems to have been carefully done by Signor Alary—his most striking departure from the original forms being in the *terzetto* 'Ah taci.' On the other hand, loss of texture was to be felt more than we had expected; and this not merely from the substitution of one orchestral key for another, but from the enfeeblement of the body of vocal sound. Had *Leporello* possessed a more metallic and deeper voice than Signor Ronconi's, such effect might have been less prominent. As it is—seeing that the parts of *Masetto* and *Il Commendatore* are comparatively unimportant—the combination becomes virtually one of three equal *soprano* voices, two high tenors and one low one, and much of the music is thereby lifted up to the aerial heights of "*Bottom's* dream, which had no bottom" (or base)—rendered at once weak and fatiguing, and reminding us of a concerted piece (to recur to last week's illustration) with *viola* as its stay and sustenance, having neither "*cello*" nor "*contrabasso*."

This effect may have been to some degree enhanced by the personality of the principal tenor, to introduce and accommodate whom these variations were inevitable. We do not in any way depreciate the excellent and fascinating qualities of Signor Mario, still less the obvious preparatory pains bestowed by him on the part, if we describe his *Don Giovanni* as a first-class drawing in water-colours. His presence is excellent—a Velasquez portrait of "a *hidalgo* in a black dress," which had walked out of its frame. His demeanour is gracious and graceful—but there was not, on his first nights sufficient triumph, nor defiance, nor artfulness,—not enough, in short, (to adopt a coarse but expressive phrase), of "the devil," to befitt the wicked Lord in whose unlimited fascinations (as transcendentalists have held) there was something of sorcery, which naturally prepared their owner for "going home," and not "elsewhere" when he followed the Man of Stone down to supper.—This was to be curiously felt in the scene "La ci darem," where Signor Mario's *chivalreque* wooing—a tone too refined—made it hard for peasant *Zerlina* (Madame Bosio) to yield, without her showing a tone too much of willingness. In the masquerade *finale*, again, Signor Mario was not so much spiritless as polite, astonished and acquiescent.—With *Donna Elvira*, to continue, he was over-gentle, without indicating the suppressed impatience of a man of pleasure, when called to order by one whom (having tired of her) he considers a prude. In the final scene Signor Mario was more self-asserting. Probably, he may, according to his usage, strengthen and enrich his conception and performance as he repeats the character,—but, possibly, it may end in being ranged with his *Otello*, his *Eleanor* in 'La Juive,'—as among the opera-heroes to the presentment of

† No one has been louder in clamour than M. Berlioz,—no one so honestly earnest in recommending Gluck,—but his clamour and honesty received rude contradictions when he himself (as we have heard) gave the *song* of *Thoues* ('*Iphigenia*'), to a chorus of male voices, the grand duet betwixt *Armede* and *Hidraot* ('*Armide*'),—to another unisonal squadron of women and men. Why, then, should critic clamour, be he ever so honest?

whom he is not equal,—and not with his *Raoul* or *Gennaro*, in the dramatic portions of which it would be hard to suggest an improvement.—He sang throughout with great firmness and finish.

If we missed that stimulant Satanic touch of luxury and power in *Don Juan*, which we have always understood was supplied to it by what Garat called "*la fougue Andalouse*," of Garcia,—a former tenor representative—we found a morsel of *Mephistopheles*,—though mean and shabby, "born in the garret, in the kitchen bred,"—impish, subservient, terrified, betraying his employer in the hour of need—in Signor Ronconi's *Leporello*—a scrap of violet devilry, which, whether intentional or unintentional, whether suggested by our own dreams or by the instinct of the actor, gave to the part new interest,—some colour of the *Familiar* to a master who had made an unholy compact.—Signor Ronconi was in his best time throughout the whole of the first performance, and (without reference to change of notes) had read, and accordingly phrased, Mozart's music with a soundness and a right feeling which we failed to find when he attempted *Don Giovanni*.—Signor Tamberlik was singing his best,—Madame Grisi her very best (her great recitative was the highest vocal and declamatory thing of the evening).—Madame Bosio well,—Mlle. Marai carefully: but there is something to be done in personation and assertion of *Donna Elvira* (a contrast betwixt the devotee and the demon), of which she has never dreamed.—There was every *encore* which had ever been heard, or heard of, in former representations.—The scenery, dresses and stage appointments (it is superfluous to say, when speaking of the *Royal Italian Opera*) are picturesque, sumptuous and real.

'Zampa' comes awkwardly as next opera after 'Don Giovanni,' owing to the similarities existing betwixt the two stories. In style of music, however, no couple of opera-writers can stand more widely asunder than Hérold and Mozart:—the latter, with all his wealth of science and affluence of idea, so thoroughly natural,—the former, with all his cleverness, so thoroughly mannered, only extricating himself from the uttermost coqueteries of the French style once or twice, as in the comic duet and trio (No. 8 of the score), which is frank and mirthful enough, and again in the final duet, which is as full of real passion as the preceding *carolina* is of conceit and artifice. Our allies, as we have pointed out on former occasions, rate Hérold highly, and sigh over his early decease as a calamity which has deprived their nation of a great serious composer. With this judgment we have never been able to sympathize. Clever, piquant, pertinent to impertinence, he is sometimes faded to the degree of poorest platitude in his melodies (as, for instance, in the first romance of *Camilla* in 'Zampa'), often fatiguing in his instrumentation. He seems to us to have had no more passion than M. Auber, without half the grace and delicacy of the composer of 'La Muette,' and nowhere to have shown the dramatic force and pathos which M. Halévy has once or twice displayed, as (for instance) in the best portions of 'Le Val d'Andore,' and the second act of 'La Juive.' Regarding the justice of this appreciation, doctors may disagree, but they will hardly question the fact that 'Zampa' has hitherto failed to find a public in London.—First produced some quarter of a century since, in a German dress, by one of the foreign companies who sang at *Her Majesty's Theatre*—subsequently in Italian, in 1844, first, with that wonderful Signor Felice of five different names, secondly, with Signor Fornasari as hero, and with Madame Persiani as *Camilla*,—"done into English" for M. Jullien,—put in rehearsal and never produced,—it would seem as if some attribute belonged to it which stood in the way of its acceptance here.—We must wait till next season to see how far the new "cast" will reconcile our audience to 'Zampa.' On Thursday the public was cold, and the overture won the only *encore* of the evening. Yet the opera was well given. Mlle. Parepa as the *prima donna* impressed us more favourably than she did last year—precisely because she attempted less. She may yet do good service to the theatre if she proportion her ambition to her means, and attempt to be that valuable character, a first-class singer of second parts. It

is by having "taken this line" that one of her playfellows, Madame Nantier-Didé, has made herself so deservedly a public favourite.—Signor Tamberlik, as *Zampa*, was singing with less than his usual power. But, independently of the music being uncongenial to Italian singers, that of the Pirate is rendered doubly harassing by its having been written for M. Chollet—one of those clever French actors who are neither baritone nor tenor—have a voice everywhere and tone in no part of it.—Signor Ronconi's comedy was excellent,—so was Signor Tagliafico's appearance and action as *Danièle*. The band and chorus were all that could be desired.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—A slight disarrangement must take place in the Leeds Festival, since the visit of Her Majesty to open the Town Hall is postponed for a week later than was originally intended. This will make it necessary for the musical performances to commence on the 8th or Wednesday in place of Tuesday the 7th of September.

We adverted some time ago to the formation of a new "Musical Society" with many complex duties and objects of interest. By a paper which has been forwarded it appears to be now fairly "under way" so far as the adherence of 100 Members go, and the election of a Council.—The latter (somewhat of the largest) consists of Messrs. Benedict, W. Beale, H. Blagrove, W. Chappell, Rev. Sir W. Cope, Sir J. Harrington, Messrs. C. Horsley, Lidel, G. Macfarren, Mellon, Molique, Mori, Pawle, Dr. Rimbault, Messrs. Salaman, Sargood, Smart and Wallace.—Of the list of objects, which this large Council intend to take in charge, we have already offered an opinion. If the new Society succeed only in one out of the half-dozen it will do good service to music, in which hope we wish it every success.

These are the 'Don Giovanni' weeks: since Mr. Lumley has been "running" Mozart's opera during his late cheap performances, with Madame Ghioni in place of Mlle. Ortolani as *Donna Elvira* and Madame Tietjens as *Donna Anna*. Of the latter lady we have a word to say, in fulfilment of past promise. Strange to tell, *Donna Anna* is the least successful part, to our thinking, in which Madame Tietjens has appeared. She is loud, harsh and inexpressive. Her voice *tenors* it is true; but never did we feel more clearly than by her saying of the grand recitative '*Don Ottavio*' and her singing of the *aria* '*O sai chi l'onore*,' how vast is the superiority of the Italian production of tone. The voice of Madame Tietjens, owing to want of method and to her propensity for singing *fortissimo*, is losing body and sweetness. After what must have been to her a season of singular responsibility and fatigue—she has left London, instantaneously to resume her duties at Vienna. She would do more wisely, supposing her desirous of being and not seeming a great artist, and of keeping her English public, to take some repose and a good singing-master.—It is just to the performance of 'Don Giovanni' at *Her Majesty's Theatre* to add, that our remarks in another column on the loss of effect by transposition were brought home to us with great force, by the superior vigour of the concerted music at "the old house,"—this being merely dependent on the two principal basso parts being executed by the voices for which they were written.

A Guide to the Composers of Instrumental Music, by Louis Engelke, (Boosey) is a great sheet, in the form of a map, which might be advantageously hung up in all music schools, showing as it does in a neat tabular form the compass of the instruments combined in the orchestra, whether the same be civil or military.

"The observations," writes a Correspondent, "on the choice and quality of words proper to set to music, which have from time to time appeared in the *Athenæum*, however vexatious they seem to unmusical poets and careless composers, and frivolous to graver men of letters (there are still such) who hold fast to the puerile superstition concerning the worthlessness of

tweedledum and tweedledee,

and who affect to degrade an art simply because

they do not understand it, will receive some support at least from any one who recollects what manner of authors did not think it beneath their care to labour in the cause of English opera in the last century. None less Augustan than Dryden, Congreve, Gay, Addison, Mason. One might further appeal to such settings as those of 'Comus,' 'L'Allegro,' 'Alexander's Feast,' 'The Cecilian Ode,' and remind the lover of music that many of the great modern songs of England are by writers no less accomplished than Thomson, Shenstone, Campbell, Scott, Joanna Baillie, Moore, Wolfe, Procter, and, latest of all, though not least, Kingsley. But from such a list of precedents, and from such hints for an appeal (to be proved by examples without number) it is surely not unreasonable to deduce two conclusions of importance: one is, that the highest of poets, need not consider it "*infra dig.*" to labour for music, nor the strongest of musicians conceive any pains too great in selection of the best poetry. The ballad—summer of such writers (to name no names) as were justly and easily caricatured in *Punch* many a time, is over. It is time for a new "deal of the cards," or rather a deal in the old fashion (which means a *deal*, as brokers have it, 'with' and by recognized poets,) if English music is really, not spasmodically, to rise and to take its own worthy and characteristic place in the music of Europe.

Y. L. Y.

The following is from another Correspondent:—"In reference to your remarks on the proposed French commission of inquiry as to the sharpness of pitch of the tuning fork, &c., allow me to suggest the probability of voices as well as men having degenerated in the present age,—since we have living examples of what the voice can attain of height and depth—as witness Mr. Jones, of the Canterbury Hall, who has sounded, in my presence, the fourth note (A) below E flat, and who often brings out the c below the line in chorus singing, and with the band has produced the tenor c (above the treble line). He has sung at Drury Lane for thirty years, being now nearly seventy, and is a very careful singer."

A mass, the composition of M. Benoist, written for *soprani*, tenors, baritones and basses, with organ and harp, was performed at the Church of Saint Eustache, in Paris, on the 25th of last month. On the same and preceding day a Festival was held at Rochefort. The principal works performed were M. David's 'Eden,' (in which M. Maubert, an infantry soldier, is said to have distinguished himself as *The Creator*),—a grand overture 'L'Inspiration,' by M. Grieve,—the 'Hallelujah,' from the 'Messiah,'—Mendelssohn's Symphony in A,—the overture to 'Guillaume Tell,'—and the finale to the third act of 'Moise.' There has also been a musical congress of part-singers and military bands at Dijon.

The French have been putting one of their naval heroes—Jean Bart—on the stage of the *Porte St. Martin Théâtre*. Will sensitive persons see in this apotheosis of a naval celebrity, as in the Cherbourg works, another finger pointed against England?—or if they be more practical and play-going, merely another proof how French playwrights are driven to their wit's ends for sensations and subjects?—In their garden shows and civic pageants, we perceive, they have been lately out-doing Madame Tussaud. *Charles the Fifth* and *Francis the First* may be seen nightly (M. Janin assures us) riding under all manner of artificial lights at the *Pré Catalan*—and not long since, at Rouen, on the occasion of some municipal procession there, *Louis Quatorze* and *Cornéille* walked;—*Madame de Montespan* having been struck out of the show by Propriety's edict.

Signor Rossini is said to find himself so well at Paris, as to have determined on giving up Bologna, and establishing himself for the rest of his days at Passy, where he is about to erect a mansion.

The lovers of the best pianoforte music will see with pleasure the announcement of four-and-twenty new Studies, by M. Stephen Heller, which are about to appear.

Among other news from Germany is a rumour of a coming opera, by Herr Cornelius,—at present residing in Munich,—on a subject from 'The Arabian Nights,'—and the approaching perform-

ance at Hanover of 'Ilka,' a Hungarian opera, "the first," add the journals, "which has passed the frontier."—A concert of Russian music, comprising sacred compositions by Bortnianski, Lamin and Davidoff, and a selection from Glinka's opera 'A Life for the Czar,' is said to have lately made a sensation at Dresden.

MISCELLANEA

The Religious Trading Societies.—Your Correspondent, "A Country Bookseller," naturally enough calls attention to a fact, which is apparent to any one who gives the slightest attention to the working of the Bible Society; viz., that, in supplying Bibles handsomely bound, that Society not only travels beyond the intentions of its founders, but, by applying the funds to such purposes, defeats them. There cannot, I am sure, be the slightest objection to the gratuitous distribution of the Holy Scriptures,—but I doubt very much the necessity for establishing depôts all over the country, for selling Bibles and Prayer-Books a penny or two-pence less each copy than they can be bought in the legitimate way of trade. But, if so much can be said of the Bible Society, much more may be brought against the Christian Knowledge and Religious Tract Societies, in outstepping the bounds laid out by their projectors. Will any one assert that these Societies have become other than mere clerical publishing firms, neither limited in their scope nor restricted in their trade? Are their books any better than those published by the London booksellers? Are their scientific works better? Above all, do they find their way to the cottages of the poor—or do they not rather, in great part, adorn the shelves of the clergy and ministry who influence the supporters of these institutions? Then, I ask, where is the "call" for these Societies? It is not even to be said in their favour, that they give their books away. What excuse have the patrons thereof in collecting funds for their management, when their publications are neither better, cheaper, nor in most instances so well got up, as those produced by individual enterprise,—and when they have not even a gratuitous circulation to put forth in their behalf? But, as a "Country Bookseller," I have a greater cause of complaint against the perpetual interference of the clergy with our trade. As if it were not enough to have the above-mentioned and other clerical book and stationery Societies, dogging us at every corner, we are doomed now and then to listen to a homily in praise of the "*Book Hawking Association*" pronounced from the pulpit, where we would at least look for something else than a trade lecture. This Society, I am informed, was started professedly to introduce to the poor of the rural districts a class of publications which should counteract the tendency of those which usually obtain circulation in these places. And in what manner do the hawkers remedy this evil? Why, Sir, while the cheap, and in great part harmless, publications against which their efforts are directed are notoriously on the increase, this Association finds a vent for its philanthropy by vending their wares (of every description and price) amongst the farmers, tradespeople, and servants of the gentry and nobility,—the latter of whom, I am told, are their best customers.

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I am, &c. W. T.

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